

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Russia's new leader David Watt believes that the massive newspaper coverage of the Soviet succession only covers up how little we really know about Konstantin Chernenko (below)



Super-computer age Spectrum explains the Fifth Generation of computers

Public spending The Public Spending White Paper in detail

Cross country twins Twins in pursuit of the national cross country championship on Saturday, and Pat Butcher tells why he believes one of them will win

Bedford revisited Friday Page talks to Sybil Bedford whose nostalgic novels are making a reappearance

Special Report Royal Princess. A Special Report on P&O's £100m luxury cruise ship being built in Finland.

Tories will act against extremists

Senior Conservative Party figures have accepted in principle the main recommendations put forward by the Young Conservatives for preventing infiltration by the extreme right. A party committee agreed to tighten procedures, but anger was expressed about the BBC Panorama programme on the organization's report

Ethel Merman dies aged 75

Ethel Merman, the Broadway singer and actress whose stage career began in 1930 was found dead at her home in New York yesterday. She was 75.



Sheep-goat

Hybrid sheep-goats have been produced in a genetic manipulation experiment. Back page

Pound improves

The dollar's slide continued with key European currencies making significant gains. Sterling was up 1.90 cents at \$1.4425. Page 19

Iranian raid

Iranian jets attacked an Iraqi town only 22 miles from Baghdad, killing three people. Page 5

Lead page, 13 Letters: On housing, from Lord Hylton and others; British Telecom, from Sir George Jefferson.

Leading articles: Divorce; GCHQ, Cheltenham; Sellfield. Features, pages 10, 12 Phone tapping and the law; halting the US drift to isolationism; Ronald Butt on the university admissions tangle. Spectrum: a profile of Philip Larkin.

Books, page 11 Robert Nye reviews the latest Keats; Woodrow Wyatt on Sidney Bernstein; Andrew Gimson on fiction; Fiona MacCarthy reviews *Gorillas in the Mist* by Dian Fossey.

The art of Korea A three-page special report to mark the opening of *Treasures from Korea*, an exhibition at the British Museum. Obituary, page 14 Mr George Elvin. Mr Walter Forde

Thatcher ignores MPs' call to lift GCHQ ban

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government last night signalled its determination to go ahead and ban trade unions at the Cheltenham communications headquarters despite a call by Conservative and Labour MPs to drop its plans if a legally binding, no-disruption agreement can be achieved.

Less than two hours after the all-party select committee on employment recommended the Government to suspend its action pending talks with the unions on a voluntary deal, it reaffirmed that the offer stood to staff at GCHQ. New terms and £1,000 were offered as compensation for the loss of their union rights.

Although the Government said that it would consider the report and respond to it in due course, a Downing Street spokesman said: "Since it might affect the decisions of those at GCHQ, the Government must make clear now that the offer made to GCHQ staff and already accepted by a substantial number of them stands."

The view at Westminster remained last night that the formula recommended by the select committee, or something like it, might eventually be agreed between the Government and the unions. But although the report, drawn up by six Conservative and five Labour MPs, was aimed at helping ministers make as painless a retreat as possible it

caused no surprise that the Government did not seize it at once.

With a second meeting imminent between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the unions, it was accepted that the Government's hand would have been greatly weakened by any indication that it was prepared to accept a compromise.

The report, which contains moderately worded but detailed criticism of the Government's handling of the affair, proposed:

● That the Government should thoroughly examine the no-disruption arrangements proposed by the Civil Service unions to ensure that they meet national security needs.

● That the unions offer "whatever legally binding assurances" the Government requires.

● That any arrangements agreed should apply only to union activity at Cheltenham and not be a precedent for action elsewhere.

● That the unions immediately accept Mrs Thatcher's invitation for talks.

● That if a satisfactory agreement can be reached "the Government should withdraw the proposal to prohibit employees at GCHQ from belonging to a trade union."

● That in the meantime all

action consequent on the ban decision should be suspended, together with the requirement to sign forms relating to new conditions of employment and the £1,000 offer.

The committee voiced concern over the timing of the Government's decision, saying that the explanation given by the Government for not taking action before now did not justify the delay.

It criticized the lack of consultation of staff or unions before the decision, and the way that information was released.

According to the unions, "the Government's actions appear to have soured relations with the staff affected and to have lowered morale, as well as resulting in damaging public controversy and widespread and unwelcome publicity for GCHQ."

The committee said: "The handling of the issue could not be described as a model of its kind."

Mr Ronald Leighton, Labour MP for Newham North East, the committee chairman, said that it had tried to point the way to a solution in which the Government's four objectives - no disclosure, no disruption, no intrusion by union officers from outside GCHQ and no conflict of loyalties - could be achieved without the need for it to pursue its "ill-advised, misconceived and counter-productive course".



Royal visit to Jaguar

The Prince of Wales had his leg pulled about the "Royal production line" when he visited the Jaguar car factory in Coventry yesterday with the Princess of Wales.

Prince Charles, soon to be a father for the second time, laughed and blushed when he came face-to-face with a 37-year-old bench worker Mr Terry McCauley.

The Royal visitor was taking a serious approach to the two-hour factory visit and congratulating workers on the company's success story.

He told Mr McCauley: "You are doing very good work here. Production is going well."

Mr McCauley replied: "Your production line is going well, too."

The Princess, wearing protective glasses (left) received repeated congratulations on her pregnancy as she talked to some of the factory's 4,000 workers.

The Prince and Princess in their two-hour visit saw the limousine shop and the main track where the highly-successful XJ Jaguars are produced.

Gemayel's army melts away

From Robert Fisk, Doha, Lebanon

As President Gemayel desperately sought ways to appease the forces threatening to overwhelm his rule in Lebanon, Druze and Shia Muslim militias yesterday swept down to the Mediterranean coast south of Beirut, breaking apart the Lebanese Army's 4th Infantry Brigade and sending hundreds of dispirited troops streaming across the Awali River to the safety of Israeli front lines.

In Beirut last night there were even rumours that Mr Gemayel had asked former President Suleiman Franjeh - the Maronite leader who invited the Syrians to Lebanon eight years ago - to become head of state

Rome (Reuters) - Mr Leamon Hunt, US director-general of the multinational peacekeeping force in Sinai, was shot dead in an ambush by gunmen in Rome last night, an Italian Government official said.

and that he himself was preparing to resign.

Of the Lebanese Army's total fighting strength of 21,000 men, more than half have now defected to the militias in Beirut or refused to fight for the Government.

The road south of Beirut yesterday provided damning proof of Mr Gemayel's collapse

ing power. Hundreds of Muslim troops from the 4th Brigade had already defected to the side of the Shia Amal militia and still walked the streets in their new Marine-style combat fatigues, but with green scarves round their heads.

Along the coast highway to Doha and Damour, I found dozens of Lebanese Army armoured vehicles with the slogans of the Druze Progressive Socialist Party painted on the sides, each flying a red flag bearing the PSP emblem of crossed hammer and pen.

Even more symbolic of the

Continued on back page, col3

Gulf deal questions pressed by Shore

By Julian Haviland Political Editor

Mr Peter Shore urged the Prime Minister for a third time yesterday to make a full and early statement on the involvement of herself and her son Mark in the winning of a £300m contract in the Gulf for the British-based construction company Cementation International.

In a long and reasoned letter, Mr Shore, Labour's chief spokesman on trade and industry and on House of Commons matters, put to the Prime Minister a number of questions which he said could no longer be ducked now that Mr Mark Thatcher had publicly acknowledged his connexion with the company.

Mr Shore suggested that Mrs Margaret Thatcher would not tolerate a situation in which a close relative of one of her ministerial colleagues was engaged by a firm with whom the minister "was in a negotiating relationship" because that relative was thought to have influence with the minister.

The Opposition wish to establish whether the Prime Minister, her son and Cementation stood in such a relationship.

They want answers about the circumstances in which the contract for the building of a new university in Oman was awarded after a visit there by Mrs Thatcher in 1981, Mr Mark Thatcher flew to Oman to join his mother during her visit.

Mr Shore's questions, several of which the Prime Minister's office declined to answer when they were put by *The Observer* newspaper last month, were:

● What was the purpose of Mark Thatcher's visit? Why was it unacknowledged until January?

● Did the Prime Minister consult with him about contracts, and the Cementation contract in particular?

● Did he meet representatives of the Oman government to discuss the contract, and if so was the meeting held, and the visit to the Gulf made, with the Prime Minister's consent?

● "Finally, what agency, consultancy or other financial arrangement with Cementation or any of its associated firms does your son enjoy?"

Mr Shore said the central issue of principle raised by the Oman contract was how far the standards of conduct expected of ministers - that public duties and private interests must not conflict - should extend to close members of a minister's family.

It was not enough for Mrs Thatcher to say that she was "battling for Britain". Successive ministers had on overseas visits backed deals to assist British firms. "But I know of no previous occasion when a minister has battled for a single firm in which a member of his own family had a direct financial interest in the outcome."

Inquiry into farmers' privileges

By Hugh Clayton

The Prime Minister has told her staff to examine the privileges enjoyed by farmers. The study, which has already started, is a spin-off from a wider investigation of monopoly powers and other advantages enjoyed by the professions.

Staff at Downing Street are trying to assess whether Britain receives good value from the farming industry in the light of its subsidies from EEC and British funds and its freedom from rates and planning controls.

The study will alarm leaders of the agricultural lobby who gathered in London yesterday for the second day of the annual meeting of the National Farmers' Union. Officials suggested that the Prime Minister's staff were trying to create a climate of public hostility to farming through prominent critical articles in national newspapers.

They spoke after delegates had adopted unanimously a protest about "the biased programmes and press reports that the media has produced, and the effect they have on the farming image". Mr John Hughes, chairman of the union's Somerset branch, said the image was less important than the orchestrated campaign against farming exemplified by an article in *The Times* yesterday by Mr David Hart.

Mr Hughes said that Mr Hart was one of the Prime Minister's closest political aides. Mr Hart said later: "I do not really want to say anything about it. I am not one of her closest aides."

TUC reaches deal on political levy

By Our Labour Correspondent

The TUC last night struck a deal with the Government to avert legislation on the way union members pay the political levy to the Labour Party, although legal restrictions could be introduced if ministers believe voluntary arrangements are not working.

The agreement is the first important result of the less hostile climate between Government and TUC which has allowed union leaders to hold private talks with Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, over the past few weeks.

A formal TUC statement of guidance will be issued this afternoon. It will advise how unions should inform members on how to contract out of the levy.

The agreement means that the Government will not introduce an amendment to the Trade Union Bill which would have switched the onus on to members to contract in. Union

leaders believed that such legislation would have bankrupted Labour.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, and Mr William Keys, chairman of the employment policy committee, were unable to persuade Mr King to drop a clause which introduces compulsory union ballots every 10 years on whether political funds should be continued.

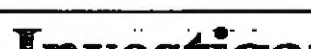
The TUC statement will lay down a framework for unions to make information available to members on how to stop paying the political levy, although it was pointed out many unions met most of the criteria already.

Members will be told regularly of their rights to halt levy payments and all will be told again after any ballot on political funds. New members will have to be informed of how to withdraw from payments, and forms enabling them to do so will have to be prominently displayed.

Mr King said that the agreed statement could lead to "some fall" in the numbers of trade unionists paying the levy. He said he found that the 98.4 per cent of members of the Transport and General Workers Union recorded as paying the levy was "a little on the high side to say the least".

Mr Keys and Mr Murray saw Mr King after the employment policy committee had declined to give a clear recommendation that the agreement should be accepted. Final approval will have to be given by the general council next week, but that will be a formality.

Mr King: Expects "some fall" in levy.



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Investigation into BBC and ITV listings monopoly

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Publishing's most lucrative monopoly, the twin grip held by the *Radio Times* and *TV Times* over television schedules, is to be examined by the Office of Fair Trading.

Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, announced yesterday that he intended to carry out two investigations under Section Three of the Competition Act to establish whether the BBC and Independent Television Publications (ITP), a consortium of the independent television companies which publishes the *TV Times*, were

pursuing conduct which amounted to anti-competitive practices.

The announcement was greeted with gloomy silence at both the BBC and ITP, but was welcomed by Mr Tony Elliott, the proprietor of the London listings magazine, *Time Out*, which last year lost a lengthy legal battle against the monopoly.

"It is about time - I cannot imagine why this has not been investigated before," Mr Elliott said. His company is still paying its legal bill by instalments; *Time Out* has spent

£150,000 fighting the monopoly.

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) said that it had received complaints from a number of independent publishers that they were unable to offer their readers a full television programme information service or produce new journals in competition with the *Radio Times* or *TV Times*. Members of the public had also complained about "having to buy two publications for full programme information."

The investigation will centre on the restrictions and con-

ditions placed by BBC and ITP on the amount and timing of advance programme information released to newspapers and magazines.

The BBC and independent television companies have feared for some time that their monopoly was unlikely to last. *The Times* forecast in October 1982 that the OFT intended to investigate the issue, but it is understood that the inquiry was delayed by the *Time Out* legal action and problems over the complexities of copyright law.

The effect of the *Time Out* case was to establish that both

organizations had copyright on programme details, but the OFT will have to look at the issue in the light of public interest. There was little doubt in broadcasting circles last night that the result was unlikely to favour the continuation of the present control of programme information by the BBC and independent television.

A number of publishers have come to realize that there is a vast market for a magazine which will give programme details of both schedules.

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Parkinson and Howell head Thatcher's list for EEC commissioner

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The Government is unlikely to nominate a Labour politician to serve on the European Commission, which has to be renewed from the start of next year, according to senior Conservative sources in the European Parliament.

Instead Mrs Margaret Thatcher wants to send a "heavyweight" Conservative politician, backed by a successful businessman, able to hold his own in the intricacies of Brussels negotiations.

Her short list is believed to have Mr Cecil Parkinson pencilled in for the leading commissioner, with Mr David Howell, the former Secretary of State for Energy, as a possible alternative. Mrs Thatcher is known to have the highest regard for Mr Parkinson's talent, despite his forced resignation. She favours him strongly for the job.

On the other hand Brussels is regarded as a political back-

water which Mr Parkinson might not want to enter. Mr Howell may consider he has a chance of ever serving in another government under Mrs Thatcher and be glad to make the move.

For the most technical job the choice would be easier. Approaches are known to have been made to Lord Rayner, the chairman of Marks & Spencer to see if he might be interested. There are others waiting in the wings.

It was Lord Carrington who suggested the idea of keeping a Labour Commissioner in Brussels, arguing that that was one way of ending the Labour hostility to the EEC.

In the event, however, Mr Ivor Richard, the Labour nominee, has found himself pushed to the fringe of the party's mainstream because of his pro-EEC stance.

The appointment would cause an outcry from Labour, which regard the post of second commissioner as the Opposition party's by right. But Mrs Thatcher seems to feel that Britain's interests are not best served by giving one of those important jobs to a member of a party with a less than total commitment to the EEC. Her idea is to form a two-member team.

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To the rescue: Mr Ken Rimmel (left), Mrs Margaret Mitchell and Mr Anthony Turner inspecting the engine of a Second World War RAF Typhoon recovered yesterday from Pagham Harbour, near Chichester (Photograph: Barry Beattie).

Divorce Bill warning

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent
A warning of a return to bitterly-fought divorce cases and a further drain on legal aid comes from lawyers today as the Government's proposals on divorce reach the Commons for second reading.

The Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill will reduce wives' rights to maintenance and "put conduct back under the microscope for the first time in nearly 10 years", the Legal Action Group of lawyers says.

Its briefing paper to MPs is the latest salvo against a Bill which has attracted critics spanning the Church of England, the Law Society, non-parent families and the Married Women's Association.

The proposal that spouses' conduct should be taken into account in settling maintenance where it would be unfair to disregard it will involve solicitors investigation husbands' and wives behaviour in every case, the group says.

"As a consequence conciliation will be made more difficult and an increase in expensive litigation, much of it funded by legal aid, can be expected."

Both the Legal Action Group and the Law Society are urging courts to consider conduct only where it is so "gross and obvious" that it would be inequitable to disregard it.

The Government's proposals, aimed at encouraging "clean breaks" by requiring courts to consider a wife's potential earnings, are best "irrelevant" and at worst damaging to women and children, the lawyers say.

A call for the effects of the divorce proposals to be monitored should they become law comes today from the Family Policy Studies Centre.

Leading article, page 13

Army seal off IRA escape routes

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Security forces in Northern Ireland, started to block unauthorized crossings on the border with the Irish Republic yesterday as part of a pilot scheme aimed at reducing escape routes for terrorists.

However, their activities in Co Fermanagh brought protests from residents and nationalist politicians along with concern in Dublin where Dr Garret Fitzgerald's government believes such measures are counter-productive.

The operation to seal three border roads between Fermanagh and Co Monaghan came after a detailed review of border security which began after the murder of three church elders worshipping in a Pentecostal hall near the border, last year. Their deaths prompted the Official Unionist Party to walk out of the Northern Ireland Assembly and brought demands for tougher security along the 300-mile border.

A security cordon was placed around Ross as Army engineers guarded by soldiers and police started their work.

The Northern Ireland Office

Parents may see secret records

By Lucy Hodges,
Education Correspondent

Parents of all 142,000 secondary pupils in London will be allowed to see the confidential records held on their children by schools from this September if a proposal is approved by the schools sub-committee today.

This move towards greater openness would bring the Inner London Education Authority's 163 secondary schools into line with the primaries and comes at a time of increasing pressure for individuals to be allowed to see the files held on them by state agencies.

The new Campaign for Freedom of Information, run by Mr Des Wilson, is calling for a statutory "right to know" and the Data Protection Bill now in the House of Commons would give people access to their files on computer. Manual records, which is what school records are, would not be covered by this.

The ILEA is proposing to consult heads and teachers about the plan and its task is made much easier by the fact that the Inner London Teachers' Association is in favour of the idea. Mr Bernard Regan, of the National Union of Teachers, which used to be opposed to opening records to parents, said the Inner London NUT welcomed it.

Only a handful of authorities - notably Brent, Leicester and Derbyshire - have full-blown policies giving parents access to records. Leicester, however, has a provision that the head can retain sensitive information. Welcoming the plan yesterday, the Advisory Centre for Education, set up by Lord Young of Dartington, said at the same time that the authority had not faced up to whether parents should have access to all information kept by the school.

Sogat served with writ for £148,000 damages

By Our Labour Correspondent

Sogat '82, the printing union, has been served by the BBC with a writ for damages for £148,000 resulting from its dispute at Mr Robert Maxwell's Park Royal printing works in west London that halted London distribution of the *Radio Times* for almost three months.

Mr William Keys, union general secretary, said last night that action for damages involving a total of more than £600,000 were outstanding against the union, which would be defending all the writs.

The union this week paid the £10,000 fine imposed by the High Court for not obeying an injunction issued by the BBC to lift the blocking of the *Radio Times* in London. Union officials had stated that they would not pay any fines resulting from the Government's employment legislation.

Mr Roy Evans, deputy leader of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, is to succeed Mr Bill Sirs as general secretary when he retires next January.

Unions are relieved by report

By Craig Seton

Civil Service Union officials inside GCHQ at Cheltenham yesterday expressed quiet satisfaction and relief at the select committee's report which they believe has firmly opened the door to a negotiated settlement with the Government.

Mr Mike Barke, coordinator for the Council of Civil Service Unions in Cheltenham, said yesterday: "Most of the staff I have spoken to want an agreement which will provide a guarantee of no disruption to intelligence gathering services and local union representatives are confident that satisfactory assurances can be given to ensure a 24-hour a day, seven-day week operation."

Mr Barke said: "The select committee report has put the ball in the Government's court and appears to open the way to a negotiated settlement and that will bring great relief. However, local union representatives at GCHQ will want to look very carefully at the precise terms of any proposed agreement to make sure that unions at GCHQ are not emasculated."

Unofficially, local union representatives believe that their leaders will have to broach the question of a financial deal as part of any no-disruption arrangement.

GCHQ ban timing queried

The following is the partial text of the Commons select committee on employment's report on unions in the Government Communications Headquarters:

In approaching our inquiry we began by agreeing on four fundamental points: governments have a responsibility to ensure that national security is protected; questions of national security do arise at GCHQ; industrial action at GCHQ could affect national security in certain circumstances; and the Government have a duty to ensure that the exercise of trade union rights does not adversely affect national security.

In trying to reach a view about the Government's action, we have sought answers to a number of questions:

- (i) Was it necessary to ban unions at GCHQ?
- (ii) What other options did the Government consider?
- (iii) Why were they rejected?
- (iv) Were there any other options that could have been considered?

One point which has concerned us is the timing of the action. In their evidence the Government has indicated that they were seriously disturbed by the effects on operations at GCHQ of the industrial action there between February, 1979, and April, 1981.

Yet the Government made no announcement of action to deal with the matter until January, 1984. We do not consider that the explanation given by the Government justifies the delay. This was the action they have now taken at a time when the intelligence role of GCHQ had not been publicly acknowledged or avowed, and that

avowed was not made until May 1983. Does this mean that but for the exposure of a spy, which led to the avowed, the Government would have continued indefinitely to be seriously disturbed about possible threats to national security at GCHQ and yet be prepared to take no action?

The unilateral alteration of the terms and conditions of employment of the staff of GCHQ was admitted by Sir Geoffrey Howe to be an unprecedented act. (The Secretary of State for Employment assured us that it did not set a precedent for action outside the security and intelligence fields.) The CCSU (Council of Civil Service Unions) said that they were outraged at the announcement of the deprivation of trade union rights and their members, particularly those at GCHQ, shared that sense of outrage. They also considered that the unprecedented offer of ex-gratia payments of £1000 (subject to tax) to members of staff who would accept the proposed revised conditions of employment had provoked the indignation of the staff.

Thus, according to the unions, the Government's actions appear to have soured relations with the staff affected and to have lowered morale, as well as resulting in damaging public controversy and widespread and unwelcome publicity for GCHQ. We do not wish to add further to the criticisms that have been made by others: we would simply observe that we would not have been surprised if the handling of the issue could not be described as a model of its kind.

We turn now to the substance of the action taken by the Government, as distinct from its presentation. In giving reasons for the Government's decision the Prime Minister stressed the need to treat GCHQ like other

security services. But there are important differences. The staff of services like MI5 have never enjoyed trade union rights, whereas GCHQ employees always have. To remove those rights, which are also enjoyed by many other civil servants in highly secret posts, from GCHQ is the most serious step, which has provoked strong opposition from the staff and the trade union movement, and caused major political controversy. It is necessary to consider whether the Government could achieve their objectives in some other way.

Before coming to our recommendations, we refer to the evidence from Sir Brian Tovey. There are two preliminary observations to make. First, at no time has it been represented to the committee, either in public or in private, that there has been any threat to national security through the influence of trade unions on operations at GCHQ other than those incidents which have been referred to publicly. Secondly, given the view expressed by Sir Brian that if even only 10 per cent of those who work at GCHQ declined to accept the terms offered and ceased to work there, this could be a threat to the whole operation, if they were in the wrong or key operational areas, we are surprised that, while there could be no certainly either way about how many staff would leave, no contingency plans were made.

... Key passages in Sir Brian Tovey's evidence, however, seem to point the way to a solution that could be acceptable to the trade unions as well as to the Government. Sir Brian makes it clear that, had the concessions now offered by the unions been available at the time he was drawing up plans to ban them, the concessions would have met all the requirements

No time to sit back, CBI tells Chancellor

By Edward Townsend,
Industrial Correspondent

With the Budget just four weeks away, Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, told the Chancellor yesterday that inaction could leave Britain behind in the economic recovery.

"Britain could miss the recovery bus", he told the annual lunch of the CBI London region.

In spite of the recent optimism displayed in the CBI's quarterly trends survey, the best since the start of the recession, Sir Terence said the recovery was still patchy. "We have to face the fact that it offers little hope of increased job opportunities for some time to come."

He repeated the CBI's call for the abolition of the National Insurance surcharge, a cut in the business rates burden, and further encouragement to export. The Chancellor should not "sit back and do nothing to help industry just because things are improving", Sir Terence said.

He also challenged the proposition that manufacturing was being superseded by the service industries. About three quarters of Britain's export activity was attributable directly or indirectly to manufacturing, he said. Pay Warning, page 19

Yard holds some seized documents

Scotland Yard yesterday returned most of the documents taken by police officers from the bicycle pannier bags of Mr Duncan Campbell, the *New Statesman* journalist, after he had a road accident last week. They returned his contacts book, with about 900 personal and professional telephone numbers, and notes he had made for articles. Three documents were retained.

They are: architectural plans of an RAF base, on which Mr Campbell wrote an article six weeks ago; leaked Home Office papers on immigrant detention, which were the basis of a story printed in 1981; and a home defence plan, a document 12 years old which he had in his role as member of a Greater London Council committee.

Mr Hugh Stevenson, editor of the magazine, said the return of some documents showed the Special Branch were "backing down". But Scotland Yard said last night that a report is still being prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

In today's issue of the magazine Mr Campbell describes the material taken from his house in a seven-hour search under magistrates warrant, by Special Branch officers, after the accident. That material is still being retained.

One was a ministry document, already widely publicised, on instructions to soldiers about how to defecate in the Arctic without injuring themselves. It had been sent to Mr Campbell by the BBC's Jasper Carrott show, which had intended using it as a joke in the comedy programme.

Correction

Mr Vinny Connell, a disc jockey with independent Radio City, was dismissed last October for "persistent" reporting late for duty, not for "being drunk and aggressive at personal appearances", as reported on February 7. Mr Connell, whom the report described as an Irishman, was born in London.

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$29; Belgium 8 frs 50; Canada 50¢; Denmark 180; Cyprus 600 mil; France 100; Germany 100; Greece 100; Holland 100; Ireland 100; Italy 100; Japan 100; Korea 100; Luxembourg 100; Malaysia 100; Mexico 100; Netherlands 100; New Zealand 100; Norway 100; Portugal 100; Singapore 100; Spain 100; Sweden 100; Switzerland 100; Taiwan 100; Thailand 100; Turkey 100; USA 100; Yugoslavia 100.

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Russian paintings are fakes

By a Staff Reporter

Six Russian paintings expected to fetch about £15,000 were withdrawn from a Sotheby's auction in London yesterday after being revealed as fakes. Seven other pictures were downgraded because of doubts over their authenticity.

The fakes, which came mostly from individual owners abroad, included a painting supposedly by one of the most important nineteenth century Russian masters, Ivan Aivazovsky, which was estimated at between £8,000 and £12,000. All will be returned to their owners.

"There are a lot of Russian fakes around," Sotheby's said. "The reason these got as far as the catalogue without us finding out is that in many cases they came from abroad and we had to catalogue them from photographs."

£177,000 sale

Despite the unfavourable atmosphere created by the Russian fakes, the remaining works sold comparatively well, producing £177,006 with 17 per cent bought in (Huan Mallalieu writes).

An American collector paid £20,900 for a characteristic painting by Aivazovsky. A particularly charming work in gouache by Leon Bakst, showing his future wife and small girl examining a set of postcards which he had designed, sold to an English collector for £13,200 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000).

At Phillips a sale which included gold and silver boxes and portrait miniatures produced a total of £93,473 with 12 per cent bought in.

Benn tries fitting jobless to work

From Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent, Chesterfield

Mr Tony Benn, Labour candidate in the Chesterfield by-election, suggested a way yesterday to match up skills of the unemployed with the community's needs.

Mr Benn asked in a local magazine whether Chesterfield's unemployed could draw up a skill register and a list of urgent needs. He thought they might then match skill and need, estimate cost, and campaign for support from unions and the community to implement the plan.

Mr Benn, who told a press conference that local people were paying an estimated £272m in taxes to pay for the unemployed, said that he would sponsor the scheme as a clement of Labour national policy.

Finance, would present no difficulty. There were North Sea oil revenues, £12,000m a year lost through unemployment, and £12,000m to be spent on the Tident nuclear deterrent.

Put at its simplest, Mr Benn said he had visited an old people's home where the shoer did not work. He had also met an unemployed plumber and he argued that it would be better to put the plumber to work on the broken shower rather than spend money to keep him unemployed.

Mr Benn, who has been criticized for hiding his policies during the campaign, said that if he was elected on March 1 then the next day the Government would immediately re-examine its policies.

He also defended his attack on Mr Vincent Hanna, the BBC television commentator, who, Mr Benn had said on Tuesday had taken on the role of "the SDP candidate" in trying to



Mr Benn at Chesterfield yesterday

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BETTER FUEL CONSUMPTION MEANS WORSE ACCELERATION
AERODYNAMICS IS THE BEST WAY TO IMPROVE FUEL CONSUMPTION
LOW-REVVING ENGINES ARE LESS POWERFUL
DIESEL ENGINES USE MUCH LESS FUEL THAN PETROL ENGINES
ONLY VERY LARGE ENGINES HAVE HIGH TORQUE
LARGE CARS USE MORE PETROL THAN SMALL ONES
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BMW HAVE JUST RE-WITTEN THEM ALL.

Above, the conventional wisdom of the car industry. A set of rules that can be summed up in one word: compromise.

Below, a car that owes little to convention and nothing to compromise: the revolutionary BMW 525e.

The 525e is a paradox on wheels. An automatic, executive saloon that gives you, on the one hand, exhilarating BMW acceleration, and on the other, fuel consumption figures that read like misprints.

(47.9mpg at a constant 56mph for example; a figure even diesels would be jealous of.)

This gain in both performance and efficiency has been achieved with the help of a BMW innovation called the eta engine.

The eta runs much more slowly than normal engines, which is how it stretches fuel.

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Which is why it responds so eagerly.

In the 525e the eta engine is teamed up with another BMW innovation — a four speed automatic gearbox that actually uses less fuel than a five speed manual.

It's a combination that finally lays to rest those time-honoured motoring "rules."

For example, it's no longer true that in order to shrink fuel consumption you have to shrink the engine.

The eta is a smooth running, 2.7 litre, six cylinder engine. Yet it uses less fuel than some engines of just 1.6 litres and four cylinders.

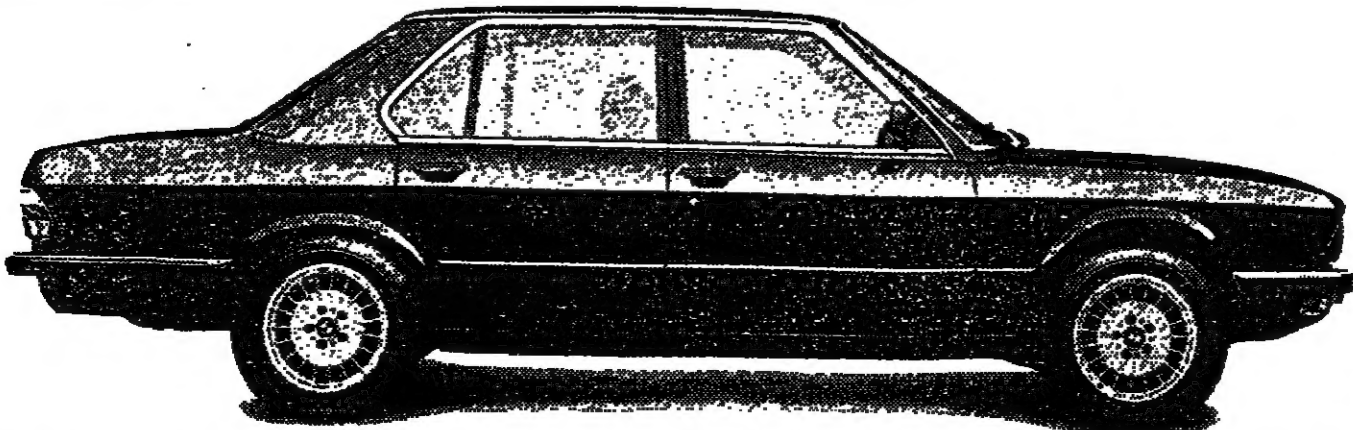
It's no longer true that an economic, low-revving engine leaves you short on power. At just 4,250rpm the eta generates a full-blooded 125bhp.

And it's certainly not true that aerodynamics is the biggest factor in saving fuel. In fact, wind resistance accounts for only 12% of a car's energy loss.

What does count is the engine. Which is why the 525e uses less fuel than the 2.2 litre automatic billed as the most aerodynamic production car in the world.

The 525e is also faster from 0-60 mph. Which demonstrates the most important breakthrough of all: that fuel economy and driving pleasure need not be mutually exclusive.

That a BMW designed for ultimate efficiency can still be the ultimate driving machine.



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THE NEW 4 SPEED AUTOMATIC: BMW 525e COSTS £11,795. DOE FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES: URBAN 24.5MPG (11.5L/100KM), 56MPH 47.9MPG (6.1L/100KM), 75MPH 37.7MPG (7.5L/100KM). THE 525e ABOVE SHOWN WITH OPTIONAL ALLOY WHEELS. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. INCLUDE CAP TAX AND VAT BUT NOT DELIVERY OR HONOUR PLATES. INCLUSIVE DELIVERY CHARGE INCORPORATING BMW EMERGENCY SERVICE AND INITIAL SERVICE. £198 + VAT. FOR BMW 525e INFORMATION FILE, PLEASE WRITE TO: BMW INFORMATION SERVICE, PO BOX 46, HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX, OR TELEPHONE 01-897 6666. LITERATURE REQUESTS ONLY. FOR THE FREE SALES: 56 PARK LANE, LONDON W1. TELEPHONE: 01-499 9277.

PARLIAMENT February 15 1984

Searching look at operation of wages councils

LOW PAY

The operation of a number of wages councils was being examined by a government committee which was to report in 1985. Mr Selwyn Gummer, Minister of State for Employment, said during a Commons debate on the problem of low pay.

He said that in the last few days they had heard of two wages councils which seemed to want to place the minimum rate for 17-year-olds at a level which would exclude many employers from being able to benefit from the young workers scheme. It might mean fewer jobs being available for the young.

Wages councils were set up, and were continued in order to protect those who were believed most vulnerable and most likely to receive low pay. The reason for their existence was a thoroughly good one and the purpose behind their creation wholly laudable.

The other side of the coin (he said) is that if the operation of these councils leads to more unemployment, fewer jobs, less opportunity, then it would be quite wrong for any government concerned about unemployment not to consider carefully the way in which these councils work.

The Government would look with the most searching eye into the operation of the wages councils and examine fairly whether or not their existence and operation increased unemployment. If that turned out to be true, it would be a dereliction of duty if the Government continued a system merely because they had always had it and because Winston Churchill proposed it in 1909.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Monklands East, Lab), said when opening the debate that the Government had revoked the fair wages resolution and replaced Schedule 11 of the 1975 Employment Protection Act to facilitate the privatization of public services. Many private firms contracting for public services, he said, reduced their costs by cutting the wages of their workers.

Mr Smith moved a motion deploring the poverty, injustice and discrimination caused by low pay, condemning the Government for deliberately fostering low pay levels and calling upon it to abandon its threat to abolish wages councils.

He said the Opposition sought to place firmly on the agenda of debate in the House and in the nation the serious and growing problem of the millions of Britons who were paid less than was necessary to maintain what the Council of Europe had called a decent threshold for wages.

It was clear that close to seven million adult workers and nearly one-third of the entire adult work force in this country had earnings which fell below that threshold.

The four groups most afflicted by low pay were manual workers, young people, women and minorities. It was a worsening problem. In 1979 a tenth of male manual workers were low paid; by

1983 it was one in six. Two-thirds of manual working women were paid in 1979 it was now three-quarters.

Although the numbers of low paid workers had been increasing the Government had continued to argue that people were pricing themselves out of jobs. Government policy was increasingly directed to lowering wage levels with the so-called aim of job creation through low pay.

The use of the fear of redundancy to curb the ambitions of the poorly paid had been reinforced by the Government's attacks on the wages councils, the abandonment of the fair wages resolution, the effects of privatization and the driving down of young people's wages through Youth Training Scheme allowances and the Young Workers' Scheme.

The wages councils were first established by Winston Churchill in 1909. They had sought to set legally enforceable minimum rates of pay in what were once called the sweated trades where workers were particularly vulnerable. This Government, going even further than the hard-faced governments of the inter-war years, was set to abolish the councils and renounce Britain's obligations under the International Labour Organization.

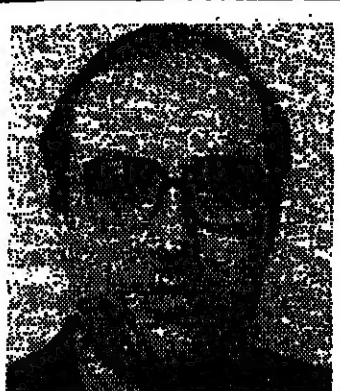
Since coming to office the Government had cut the number of inspectors needed to police wage council legislation by more than half. The number of inspections had been reduced and so had the prosecutions resulting from these inspections. Illegal under-payment by employers had substantially increased.

The Government's plan in undermining the wages councils and abolishing them was to drive low levels of pay even lower and make unprotected workers even more unprotected. That was patently by the abandonment of the fair wages resolution of the House, revoked in the last Parliament, and Schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act 1975, repealed in the last Parliament.

The fair wages resolution had stood for many years and had been commended by a series of Conservative governments before the political ice age descended in 1979. It had also been supported by good employers who did not want their wages the House now knew why the fair wages resolution and Schedule 11 were thrown away. It was to facilitate the privatization of public services and let loose destructive wage cutting which would cut the cost of providing ancillary services through the private sector.

Many private firms contracting for public services cut their costs by cutting the wages of their workers. Cut-throat competition was let loose as firms wanting to pay fair wages were undermined by more ruthless competitors who were not. The Scheme subsidized employers in order to encourage them to pay low wages to young workers.

The Government was determined to keep the Youth Training Scheme in place and to ensure that the Manpower Services Commission had recommended that it should be regularly updated. If that had been



Smith: Below threshold

done it would now be between £34 and £38.

They should not ask the taxpayer to subsidize low pay employers. Why should low pay workers be forced to go to social security offices to get a supplement? Why should responsibility be thrown on to the backs of the taxpayer?

Mr Gummer moved a Government amendment stating that the most important step towards any improvement in pay levels was by a general improvement in the economy. It welcomed the encouraging signs of economic recovery, the improvement in training, the increase in productivity and the reduction in inflation, and recognized that the number of people who had a job would depend directly on the pay levels of those in work.

Mr Gummer said the difficulties could not be written off by a series of slogans.

Government and Opposition alike were concerned but they differed on how the problem could be tackled. The Opposition motion was based on deploring and condemning but weak on proposals. It failed to relate the problem to general economic conditions.

If there was to be an improvement, low pay must be improved in absolute terms, and this inevitably meant that the country's economic performance must be improved. It was self-evident that the level of real pay depended on what could be produced and sold. There were no simple solutions. Neither legislation nor income policies nor printing money could produce real wealth.

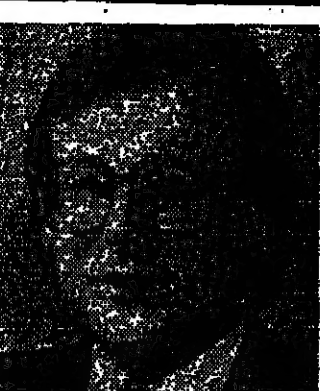
To increase real earnings and improve job prospects meant keeping down inflation, improving productivity and sharpening competitiveness. There was no short cut to it.

Those who say there is a short cut (he said) are coming themselves and conniving the most vulnerable in our society.

Those who believed in a minimum wage did not carry that logic through and include a maximum, too.

Britain had entered the world recession after a period in which her cost competitiveness had been heavily eroded by vast increases in money wages unsupported by the necessary increase in productivity. Money wages had been taking an increasing share of national income at the expense of profits and, therefore, of future investment. Now, because of this Government's economic policies, the country's economic performance had greatly improved.

Inflation had a direct effect on jobs and wages. Getting it down was a prerequisite to improving living standards. Inflation was increased by wages not earned by productivity. Goods more expensive than those of competitors would not be sold easily and the jobs of people



Gummer: Fresh eye

who produced those goods could not be protected.

In the year to the third quarter of 1983 unit wage costs in manufacturing industry rose by 3 per cent. But Japan's unit costs had not risen at all. In the United States and West Germany they actually fell by 2 per cent.

That (he said) is a serious fact for the future of jobs and wages in this country. It means our competitors are able to produce goods cheaper than we are doing in the world markets and that cannot but be harmful to our own people.

The opposition should answer the question: if it was true for Mr Healey that the level of wages affected the level of employment, what had happened to change that in the former Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Improvements in standards of living for the low paid depended crucially upon Britain's general economic health, improved competitiveness, the reduction of inflation, the improvement of productivity, the extension of training and innovative and entrepreneurial skills.

The poor could not be made richer by driving brains and skills away or by stagnating the economy.

Mr Thomas Peatry (Stalybridge and Hyde, Lab) said his constituency had its fair share of low wage earners. A recent survey showed that 10 per cent of the population were on average weekly earnings. His constituents demanded and deserved a better deal for low wage earners than they were getting from the Government. Since 1979 the problems for the low paid had increased alarmingly.

Mr Eric Cockeram (Ludlow, C) said employers were willing to take on a group of youths and put six or seven pounds notes in their pockets on Friday night. He knew of youths who would willingly do that for the training and experience, but in wages councils industries that would be illegal, so wages councils were contributing to unemployment.

Mr David Penhaligon (Turro, L) said that the Government's current policy was unbelievably harsh and making the situation worse for a large number of extremely vulnerable people, but the solutions were not easy or obvious.

He could show the Government pay slips for adults working in environments outside wages councils with a top line before tax in the region of £43, £48 and £50 a week. Abolishing the whole fabric of wages councils would be scandalous.

Mr David Atkinson (Bournemouth, East C) said the Government must face up to the reality that wages councils had outlived their usefulness and have helped to create by cutting the wages of the most vulnerable. MPs must have received complaints from employers who had been affected by decisions of wages councils.

Rules on packaging to prevent poisoning

SAFETY

The Government is to publish new regulations shortly requiring the more hazardous household products to be properly packaged and labelled. There will also be a publicity campaign to make parents fully aware of the dangers of those products. Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a written reply in the Commons.

Answering a series of questions by Mr John Forrester (Stoke-on-Trent, North, Lab) about the use of child-resistant closures of household products which had been the main cause of child poisoning, Mr Fletcher said that they should try to get a standard agreed internationally rather than just at European or national level and the International Standards Organization was working to that end.

The British Standards Institute was consulting industry about mechanical testing of child resistant closures to help develop an international standard for all child resistant packaging. Industry was free to use the existing British standard if it wished.

Mr Fletcher said that he would be meeting Lord Ennals and representatives of a working party on child resistant closures which had recommended, in the absence of voluntary agreement, regulations to select groups of household products which caused serious injury or a large number of suspected poisonings in young children.

London OAPs will still travel free

The Government will safeguard the future of concessionary travel arrangements for pensioners in London after the abolition of the GLC. Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, explained in a Commons written reply.

He said the London Boroughs' Association had agreed the principle of a joint scheme for concessionary travel and discussions on the detailed arrangements were progressing.

The London Regional Transport Bill would make provision for the continuation of a uniform scheme should any of the London local authorities refuse to take part.

London Regional Transport would offer free off-peak travel to pensioners and disabled people and free travel at all times for the blind. The cost would be recovered from the London authorities who would insure the necessary permits, and any charge those authorities might wish to make for issuing them would require his consent.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, second reading. Lords (3): Telecommunications Bill, committee, third day.

BS must deal with BP oil rig moves

OIL RIGS

Any moves BP might be contemplating over the completion of its rig being built at Scott Lithgow were for British Shipbuilders to deal with. Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said during Commons exchanges about the yard.

He was replying to Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, who referred to recent reports about the possible cancellation of the BP rig.

Has the Secretary of State been in touch with BP, which is 48 per cent Government-owned and has recently been successful in licences for the Firth of Clyde, asked Mr Dewar.

It really makes no sense at all to cancel a contract which is within a few weeks of completion, Mr Younger. It is a straight matter of the contract between British Shipbuilders and BP. If any moves are contemplated by BP about this, it is for BS to deal with.

Exchanges on Scott Lithgow began when Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L) said there was considerable concern in this country that it was transferring assets in public ownership to private ownership at a price which was not to the advantage of the taxpayer.

On what basis might such a national asset as the land on which a yard like Scott Lithgow was transferred? Will Mr Younger assure the House it will not be at less than the commercial value and that the interests of the people of

Scotland are protected?

Mr Younger: The principle objective of all the efforts being made on the Lower Clyde is to find a new buyer on a business of doing offshore construction on that site. That is the principle objective in the mind of BS as they negotiate with the various parties that have shown an interest.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, SNP) Norway has tied the issue of oil licences to industrial opportunities. How does the Government find itself in a situation where oil licences are granted to BP on the Firth of Clyde and yet BP are ready to kick Scott Lithgow in the stomach over the removal of the oil rig contract, an example of incompetence by a Government when there is no pressure put on oil companies to bring jobs to Scotland.

Mr Younger: He is certainly uninformed on the matter. The last place we should wish to emulate on oil policy is Norway and the various problems they have had.

We are regularly exceeding 70 per cent of the content of North Sea oil order being produced in this country. That is a pretty good record.

Mr Norman Goodman (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab): Given the known shortage of industrial land in Greenock and Port Glasgow, does Mr Younger see the prospect of BS and the Clyde port authority leasing or selling to the Scottish Development Agency non-operational land that would lead to the enlargement of the industrial and developmental land in the area?

Mr Younger: The first priority is to see what is going to be needed in the future for offshore construction activity. If there are then areas of the present yard which are surplus to requirements for the future, we would have to look at whether it could be turned to other industrial use.

Land tax
Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said, in a Commons written reply, that in 1983-84 the expected yield of development land tax £70m and the expected cost of collecting the tax was estimated at around £5m.

Straw burning fine may be doubled

The maximum penalty for infringing straw and stubble burning bylaws could go up this year from £1,000 to £2,000. Lord Belstead, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, indicated in the House of Lords late on Tuesday.

He explained that Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, was preparing an order increasing the maximum summary fines.

The Straw and Stubble Burning, Prohibition Bill sponsored by Lord Alport (C), was read a second time by 27 votes to 21 - majority, six. The Bill sets up a system of licensing for straw and stubble burning by farmers and would ban the practice after five years.

Inverclyde and the taxpayer will be secure?

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Big majority
At the end of the Commons debate on Tuesday night, the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements Amendment) Regulations 1984 were approved by 350 votes to 209 - Government majority, 141. In a further series of divisions, the revised housing benefit regulations were approved by similar large majorities.

Spending plans
Mr Peter Kees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said in a written answer, that the Government's expenditure plans for 1984-85 to 1986-87 would be published tomorrow (Thursday).

New peer
Lord Bottomley, formerly Mr Arthur Bottomley, Labour MP for Teesside, Middlesbrough, was introduced in the House of Lords.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

The employment select committee's report on the GCHQ future is notable not only for what it has to say on the issue, but also because it has managed to say it in an unambiguous way. This is not a trivial point. A select committee is likely to be influential only if it resists the temptation to split into party factions. Nor could it be taken for granted in this instance that there would be a united report. The committee's proceedings seem to have been just about as turbulent as the episode it was investigating.

Two potentially key witnesses were prevented by the Government from giving evidence. There were official quarrels over Sir Brian Torrey, a former director of GCHQ, who did give evidence. Mr John Gost, who was then unofficial leader of the Conservative majority, publicly attacked his own party's whips for excessive interference, and then subsequently resigned his position after clashes with some of the other Tories on the committee.

The scene was complicated by Mr Gost's failure to secure the approval of the other Conservative members before agreeing with the Labour chairman of the committee, Mr Ron Leighton, that the three controversial witnesses should be approached. Although relations seem to have been restored, there is no doubt that Mr Gost had lost the confidence of his followers by the time he resigned. There is evidence that there was spontaneous combustion on their part. They did not need to be prompted to protest by the whips.

Trend that needs to be resisted

Yet that does not dispose of Mr Gost's allegation. He may have exaggerated, but the whips were at the very least taking an exceptionally keen interest in the affairs of the committee. It is all the easier to believe that they were trying to exert pressure because of the way in which they exercised their influence on Conservative members of the defence select committee in December to ensure that Sir Humphrey Atkins became chairman of that body.

It is a trend that needs to be resisted if the new system of select committees, which was established with so much acclamation early in the last Parliament, is not to lose its credibility.

One has to be realistic. Select committees are of particular interest to academic observers of Parliament, but they are not run by or for academics. They are often dealing, and they certainly ought to be dealing, with highly sensitive political issues. To expect the whips to regard their activities with a totally high-minded detachment would be looking for an unlikely degree of political purity.

But if the independence of committees is not to be stifled, it is necessary to establish not only formal rules but clear parliamentary conventions. The whips ought to have nothing to do with the composition or the chairmanship of select committees. For them to extend their patronage into a system that is designed to scrutinize the operations of government would be a contradiction in terms.

Independence of private members

Some limitations have to be imposed on the right of a select committee to call witnesses. But governments should apply that power as rarely as possible, and the report is justifiably critical of the way in which it was exercised in this case. The peculiar quality of a select committee is that it has an exceptional opportunity to inform itself in depth on whatever area of government activity it decides to focus. For this purpose it needs so far as possible to be unfettered in obtaining evidence.

It is hard enough if formal restrictions have to be applied openly, but it would be contrary to the whole spirit in which the present select committees were established if the members were to be dissuaded secretly by the whips from approaching witnesses.

It is inevitable, though, that from time to time the whips will try to prevent committee reports being too embarrassing. There can be no formal safeguards against the word in the ear that such-and-such a conclusion would do excessive political damage. The only assurance against that can be the independence of the private member, which tends to be low at the beginning of a Parliament, to rise in mid-term and then to decline again as an election approaches.

Liberal Bill for PR at local council elections

ELECTORAL LAW

A Liberal Bill to introduce proportional representation for local government elections was given an important first reading in the Commons.

Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L) seeking leave to introduce the Bill, said that it was well timed with the present problems of local government.

Most MPs would agree that most decisions should be taken as closely as possible to the people affected by those decisions and that people living in those areas were those best qualified to recognize the problems affecting their areas and to take decisions accordingly.

His Bill would make measures like the abolition of metropolitan authorities unnecessary because, while it would not prevent radical and progressive councils being elected, it would ensure that parties seeking control would need to win a wide range of support in the community. Militant minorities would not be able to take control against the express wishes of the voters.

His measure would have additional benefits. It would increase turnout and would have the unexpected benefit of increasing the number of independent councillors elected.

His Bill would also allow proportional representation to be tested in practice and allow important issues how it worked and what effect it had on the way in which local government was run.

There were relatively few councils where the ruling party had a majority of votes.

The overall effect of the Bill would be a closer relationship between central and local government and that the Government would find that instead of taking powers away from local councils it would be able to give them more power.

It had been argued that British people did not understand the proportional representation system, but the Irish had shown they could manage it quite well. (Laughter)

The Bill had support from all parties in the House and many had indicated that although they had differences of opinion about the merits of changing the electoral system, some saw local government as the logical place to start and the present state of local government made it the right time.

His measure would have additional benefits. It would increase turnout and would have the unexpected benefit of increasing the number of independent councillors elected.

Satisfactory regime for deep sea mining needed

LAW OF SEA

The United Kingdom could not sign the convention on the law of the sea unless a satisfactory regime for deep sea mining could be obtained. Lord Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during a debate on the subject in the House of Lords.

The failure of the United Kingdom and the United States to join 132 other nations in signing the Law of the Sea Treaty, designed to safeguard the riches of the sea-bed and establish the right of access to the oceans of the world to all, threatened the future of all maritime nations. Lord Caradon (Lab) said in opening the debate.

Urging the Government to sign the convention before the deadline of December, he said it had taken almost a decade to produce a document which was probably unique in international negotiations in the vast amount of agreement obtained.

It established the rights of states having borders on the sea, exclusive economic zones, rights of navigation and innocent passage, fishing rights, and matter of pollution and research.

Four countries had voted against the treaty including the United

States, and the United Kingdom had abstained along with 16 other nations. That threatened to bring the whole enterprise to an end and destroy the years of work that had gone into it. The world had declared and the United States had denied.

Lord Kennet (SDP) said the importance of the convention was that it was not a codification of existing international law, but took account of new and unprecedented steps in the organization of human affairs.

The danger was that the United States would sign a treaty with other rich mining nations of the world, but that it would not be a world treaty, but a treaty to the world as a whole.

President Reagan had been wrong not to sign and the Government had been wrong to go along with him by abstaining. It was in the British interest to sign and President Reagan should be told in clear terms that we would do so.

It was a sad interlude in the United Kingdom's seafaring history, but there was still time to put right by adding our signature before December.

Lord Elwyn-Jones said that as a major trade dependent maritime nation, Britain had a vital interest in the production of international law, and that the United Kingdom's legitimacy was recognized through

out the world. Britain was one of the countries most vulnerable to the absence of a generally accepted regime of the sea. Three lost cod stocks should have brought that home.

The treaty had the support of the General Council of British Shipping because of its new provisions for the freedom of navigation and on

pollution. BP and Shell said it would have potential mining benefits.

The Government's main objection to signing was because the deep sea bed mining provisions and

it had been the powerful lobby representing these interests in the United States which had been largely responsible for America's change of position.

Refusal to sign would create the danger that governments would become disillusioned about the possibility of resolving difficulties through negotiation. The alternative was fragmentation of maritime law and an increasing slide towards conflict.

Viscount Hood said there were valuable resources on the sea bed such as nickel, copper and cobalt, but there were problems in bringing them to the surface. Any company undertaking such a vast expensive operation would not do so without security of tenure. He was not convinced the Treaty would benefit deep sea bed mining.

Lord Campbell of Croy (C) said there was a bizarre paradox here that the developing countries by insisting on unsuitable international regimes for deep sea mining might deprive themselves and the rest of the world for longer than was necessary of the new source of minerals.

Lord Denning said he would commend the government to ratify the convention because it would be the embodiment of a consensus of international law on the most

important sphere in which international law operated.

Lord Young, replying, said the United Kingdom would like to see a comprehensive regime on the matters which were acceptable to all. It had hoped the Third United Nations conference on the law of the sea would produce a text which could be adopted by consensus. Agreement was not reached on the provisions relating to deep sea mining.

One hundred and thirty-two countries had signed the convention and eight states had ratified it. There was much in the convention that was helpful. But the United Kingdom could not sign it unless a satisfactory regime could be obtained for deep sea-bed mining. Thirty-seven other countries had not signed the convention.

The United Kingdom had not turned its back on the convention but was seeking to improve the deep sea mining regime.

The government was considering and making preparations for an extension to 12 miles of the United Kingdom territorial sea. It hoped to introduce this and other changes on a satisfactory outcome of the UN law of the sea conference.

Cuts threat to London visitors

The London Tourist Board said yesterday that its services for visitors to the capital might have to be reduced because of a Greater London Council decision to withdraw financial support.

The GLC has given the board two months' notice that its annual support of £360,000 is to end, although it will pay £82,000 for this financial year.

The board said in a statement today: "London will be unique among major tourist capitals and within the UK in having no major local government involvement in its tourist board and convention bureau."

Other funds will be sought. The board markets London as a tourist centre and provides information services and centres along with other tourism development roles. About one-fifth of its total £1.5 million budget has been funded by the GLC which now intends to set up its own tourist organisation.

It has expressed dissatisfaction with the board saying it has failed to become involved in key policy areas, such as registration schemes for hotels and low wages paid to people in the tourist business.

Drive for transplant donors as computer list grows

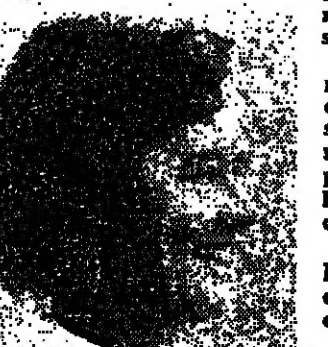
By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

The numbers change almost every day, but yesterday there were 2,751 names in the computer. There are only two reasons for a name being erased, either a person has been given a life-saving organ transplant or has died waiting for one.

The computer, at the UK Transplant Service headquarters on the outskirts of Bristol, is a 24 hours a day link between hospitals where patients await transplants and hospitals where the organs become available.

Yesterday's numbers represented 2,729 people on the waiting list for a kidney transplant, including 53 children; 18 patients who need a new heart; three requiring new livers, and one who needs a combined heart-lung operation.

The list has grown by 15 names in 24 hours, with 12 new kidney patients and three new heart patients added.



Mrs Elizabeth Ward: "Horrible" by minister's attitude

names now than six months ago, and 511 more than in October, 1982. Medical advances make more people suitable for such operations, but the supply of donor organs is lagging far behind.

The Department of Health and Social Security will launch a publicity campaign at the end of this month to encourage more people to carry organ donor cards and to

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Lords, whose finger will be on the button?

Britain's defences are being put at risk by the Telecommunications Bill, now going through the House of Lords.

British Telecom provides the backbone to our defence communications systems, and is a crucial national asset in the event of war.

Yet the Bill allows anyone who wants to buy to take up shares:

British, American, Japanese, Libyan, German, Hungarian — even perhaps Russian?

True, there is a limit — no company can own more than 15% of British Telecom, but any determined and unfriendly nation could find ways of getting round this obstacle.

Amendments to the Bill are being laid before the Lords in a bid to protect the national interest. Don't wait until the Day After to support them.

Lords, whose finger will be on the button?

British Telecommunications Unions Committee,
14/15 Bridgewater Square, London EC2Y 8BS.

Exploiting a chink in the Curtain

The Austrian State Treaty, signed in 1955 by Russia, France, Britain and America, insists that Austria remains outside Nato and the Warsaw Pact. This was often exploited by former Chancellor Kreisky to adopt controversial stances on international issues. While abandoning this aspect of Dr Kreisky's much-vaunted "active neutrality", the Socialist Liberal coalition, elected last April, has continued to obtain economic advantage from his bridge-building activities. In this first of two articles Richard Bassett, Vienna correspondent, examines the way Austria's neutrality affects its trade relations with East and West.

According to Herr Norbert Steger, the Liberal Vice-Chancellor and minister responsible for foreign trade, neutrality means treating all countries correctly and without favouritism.

For this reason, Austria, although a member of the European Free Trade Association, cannot join Comecon of the EEC, but its neutrality and geographical position offer several trading advantages which partly offset this isolation.

Situated at the heart of Europe, linked to the Balkans and Eastern Europe by centuries of shared history, Austria, unlike Switzerland, is far more flexibly disposed — to coin a favourite Government phrase — towards the East. The roads and railways, which linked Vienna with Prague and Cracow when they were all part of the Habsburg Empire, remain. The Danube, winding down from Vienna to Budapest, Belgrade and Bucharest, transported last year no less than 7.6 million tons of cargo (400,000 tons of which was Russian).

Since the bilateral abolition of visa requirements in 1979, Austria and Hungary have enjoyed a special relationship,



Austria's leaders, from left: Dr Alois Mock, opposition Peoples' Party; Dr Norbert Steger, Vice-Chancellor; Dr Fred Sinowatz, Chancellor; and Dr Bruno Kreisky, former Chancellor.

closer than any other East-West bond. Austrian credit built Budapest's first casino; Austrian banks funded most of the new luxury hotels.

Nor is this interest limited to immediate Eastern neighbours. In return for oil and gas from Russia, the engineering firm of Voest Alpin supplied the technical know-how to construct Russian pipelines. Recently, plans were even discussed for Russia to bury Austrian nuclear waste.

Although these good relations might suggest economic dependence on the East, Austria's foreign trade with Comecon for 1983 was only 12 per cent of the total norm of the 1970's.

Some would argue that even this figure is low for a neutral country which is at pains to point out that, unlike the EEC it has no list of countries with whom it is forbidden to deal. The reasons why Austria's trade, despite strong cultural ties with Central Europe, is so strongly orientated towards the West are not easily understood by its Eastern neighbours.

Since 1918, when the Habsburg Empire collapsed, foreign trade has been dominated by Germany. Common language, if not the same mentality, has built up west Germany-Austrian links to a position of *Anschluss* impregnability.

Austrians refute any suggestion that they are too dependent. As Chancellor Sinowatz has repeatedly said: "Austria is a Western democracy committed to the principles and beliefs this implies."

This ideological commitment to the West is reinforced by the economic realities of dealing with Comecon. Any substantial increase in exports to the Eastern block automatically runs up the amount of credit the Austrians give.

For Herr Steger, valuable though trade with the East is, long-term economic stability can only be secured by developing relations with the EEC. While he will not compromise neutrality, the Trade Minister will soon visit Brussels to discuss closer contacts with the Community.

Herr Steger also feels that Austria should develop its links with the Third World. Only 20 per cent of Austria's trade is outside Europe, the Minister is convinced it could be improved.

Ironically, neutrality actually works against trade with several developing countries because the respected arms industry is forbidden by law to supply weapons to belligerent countries.

While Herr Steger is convinced of the need to expand

horizons, the leader of the Conservative Opposition, Peopoles Party, Dr Alois Mock, has pointed out that Austria can improve its balance of payments deficit — 71 billion Schillings (£2.25 billion) — by developing its role in the field of barter trade between East and West.

Well versed in this Byzantine practice, involving scores of cashless exchanges over telephones, the Austrians are sought after by Western firms seeking to market goods behind the Iron Curtain.

Geography and experience have also made Austria an important centre.

Washington is also known to be worried about export licences being granted for high-technology equipment going East. But Herr Steger dismisses it as an American misunderstanding of the "correct treatment" Austria's neutrality implies in its trading.

For all his country's Western orientation, the Trade Minister considers export licences an internal affair, which only Austria can decide. It is this, rather than the actual balance of trade, which expresses most persuasively for Austria's neighbours its commitment to neutrality.

Tomorrow: Military neutrality

S African police evict black villagers

From Michael Hornsby
Mogopa, Transvaal

Police sealed off this 73-year-old black village yesterday as they moved in to evict the remaining inhabitants, members of the Tswana-speaking Bakwena tribe, who have been resisting resettlement some 60 miles away on land due to become part of an African tribal reserve.

Lorries piled high with household goods and furniture left at regular intervals for Pachtadzaal, the resettlement area which is soon to be incorporated into Bophuthatwana, the tribal "homeland" of the Tswanas, which is regarded as an independent state by Pretoria.

Mogopa, in the vocabulary of apartheid, is a "black spot", land purchased freehold by blacks outside the reserves before such transactions were banned by the Land Act of 1913. It is the South African Government's policy to eliminate these in pursuit of territorial separation of the races.

A police camp guarded the single dusty road into the village.

Major Alfonso Scheepers, the officer in charge, told journalists and photographers that they could not enter the area without a permit from the magistrate at the nearby white town of Ventersdorp. The magistrate said he was unable to issue any permits.

According to Major Scheepers, 27 families were moved on Tuesday and he expected that the remaining 80 families would have gone by today. The Black Sash, an organisation run mainly by white women which exposes black rights, says the number is much higher than the Government admits.

Major Scheepers and Government officials insisted yesterday that no force whatever was being used to move the villagers, who were leaving "of their own accord". However, the villagers who managed to slip through the police cordon to speak to journalists told a different story.

Mr Abraham Mabidikane told me that he had seen Mr Isaac More, the village headman, and Mr George Rampho, the organizer of the resistance committee, handcuffed by police and taken away in vans.

A schoolteacher, Mr Alfred Pooe, added: "Our village is getting demolished by force. They are hitting some of us when they come to our houses. Whether you want it or not, you are forced to go."

The village has been under pressure from the Government to move for some years. In the middle of 1983 a section of the community, of disputed size, moved to Pachtadzaal. The Government maintains that those who stayed behind did so only because of a quarrel among the tribal elders.

However, the villagers showed their determination to stay on their land by rebuilding one of two schools destroyed by Government demolition squads after last year's removals.

The villagers also took legal action, petitioning the Chief Justice for an Appeal Court hearing on the validity of an eviction order, their application was turned down last Friday.



Tender touch: The Pope comforting a tearful baby at his weekly general audience in the Vatican's Paul VI hall yesterday.

Salvadorean Army says it is winning

From John Carlin, San Salvador

The Chief of Staff of the Salvadoran armed forces said on Tuesday that the Army, with the support of the civilian population, was "definitely winning" the four-year war against left-wing rebels.

In his first news conference, Colonel Adolfo Blandón said — without providing figures — that in the last two months the guerrillas had "considerable casualties" and there had been a great increase in desertions.

Recent operations in disputed parts of the country demonstrated the Army's capacity "to enter any region of El Salvador at any time and to remain there as long as it wants", Colonel Blandón said. "I see no reason therefore to doubt we will win the war." El Salvador's forces are 37,000 strong.

The colonel said a massive turn-out in presidential elections due on March 25 would show the support of the people. "We can't lose the war if we have the support of the civilian population." He later admitted that voting in El Salvador is compulsory.

Colonel Blandón tried to check speculation that there might be a military coup if the elections are won by a party not to the Army's liking, such as the Christian Democrats, considered "communists" by many traditional right-wingers.

"The army will show total respect for the sovereign will of the people", the colonel said the Army would not be voting in the elections, despite its constitutional right, in order to avert divisions which could hamper progress in the war.

Despite Colonel Blandón's apparent buoyancy, President Reagan recently recommended a big increase in military aid to El Salvador. Colonel Blandón said this would be used not, as

has been suggested, to avoid an army collapse, but to end the war once and for all.

The aid would be concentrated on the Army's transport and communications. Observers here said on Monday that 10 American-supplied Huey helicopters would be arriving in El Salvador to boost the force of 21.

Colonel Blandón denied a little hesitantly that the Army would lose the war without American aid, adding that his soldiers, from the highest to lowest ranks, would "never abandon the courageous, democracy-loving people of El Salvador. How can we abandon a people who trust us and place such hope in us?"

On human rights violations in El Salvador, which human rights groups believe are committed chiefly by members of the armed forces, Colonel Blandón said that "a considerable number" of people had been detained and investigations were under way.

The dispatch of two officers to government posts outside the country offers the only indication that the military, pressed by Washington, have attempted a clean-up.

Reporters who have been to the scenes of military operations in the last week saw evidence of guerrilla evacuations but virtually none of guerrilla casualties or arms allegedly captured by the Army.

Peasants driven out of their mountain homelands by Guatemalan's guerrilla war may never be able to return to their traditional way of life (AP reports).

They are living in Army-run camps and villages, trying to camp in cities far from their village homes or holding out under severe conditions in the mountains.

Boycott of poll begins in Manila

From Keith Dalton
Manila

In a noisy midnight vigil, 5,000 anti-government demonstrators yesterday launched a militant boycott of May's parliamentary elections, the first since martial law was lifted in the Philippines three years ago.

The demonstrators gathered at a city park for a seven-hour count-down to midnight, the symbolic deadline the opposition had earlier given President Marcos to agree to six political and electoral reforms, or risk a boycott of the nationwide poll.

"Five, four, three, two, one. We're going to boycott. Happy boycott," Mr Aquino, the younger brother of the slain opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, heads a number of protest groups which sprang up after his brother's death last August.

"I am calling on my countrymen to take part in a militant, active, vigorous boycott in May. We will have no elections," Mr Aquino said, amid chants of "boycott, boycott".

Mr Aquino said President Marcos had ignored their predictions "which only sought to ensure free, honest and orderly elections". They had no option but to boycott the poll.

But the 12-party United Nationalist Democratic Organization, also a signatory to the appeal, deferred its decision on whether to contest the election.

Eye trouble: Mrs Imelda Marcos, the wife of the President, left for the United States yesterday for urgent eye treatment, the Presidential palace said (Reuters reports).

"She is in danger of losing her eyesight," a spokesman quoted her doctors as saying. He would not say what the trouble was, or how long she would be away, but informed sources said she was suffering from glaucoma.

Moscow meeting cements Honecker and Kohl's new friendship

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

When Chancellor Kohl was showing journalists round his private office a few weeks ago, he pointed to a grey telephone in the corner. "That", he said, "is the most important of all telephones here. It's the direct line to Honecker."

Herr Kohl has used it on several occasions to discuss problems directly with the East German leader, but until Monday he had never met him face to face. Their first encounter, in Moscow on the eve of President Andropov's funeral, surpassed the expectations of both men.

The West Germans were said to have been so satisfied that Herr Kohl spontaneously invited Herr Honecker to dinner. The official East German news agency also described the meeting positively. Herr Honecker said it was excellent and Herr Kohl spoke to him again on the telephone the next morning.

The Moscow meeting came at a particularly opportune moment, for it enabled the Chancellor to respond to the positive signals, which have been coming across the Inner-German border, without getting bogged down in protocol and status questions.

Herr Honecker was due here last spring, but cancelled his visit after a dispute over the death of a West German on the border - and probably because

Moscow wanted another stick to try to stop German deployment of Nato missiles.

Another date was not fixed, nor was this easy after Herr Honecker's threats of new "ice age" in bilateral relations as a result of deployment. The threat - to Bonn's relief - never materialized, but it has made further gestures by East Berlin difficult.

Nevertheless, Herr Honecker has reportedly called in recent weeks for closer relations, the continuation of East-West dialogue and the need for both German states to take the lead in replacing confrontation with cooperation and realism. Herr Kohl had been eager to respond.

Indeed the development of Inner-German relations, despite the worsening international climate, has been one of the most solid achievements of Chancellor Kohl's Government (although his opponents maintain, with some reason, that the groundwork was already laid, and that the results of 10 years of patient diplomacy are only now beginning to pay).

East Berlin has moved swiftly to remove some of the irritations. It has begun to dismantle the automatic firing devices along the border, reached swift agreement on the transfer to Western control of the S-Bahn railway in West Berlin, allowed East Germans who sought refuge in the US

Embassy and the West German mission in East Berlin to leave the country, and recently granted permission to almost 1,000 people to emigrate to the West.

In return, Bonn has supported, with Federal guarantees, an agreement, revealed last week, of enormous economic and prestige value to East Berlin - the building under licence of Volkswagen cars in the GDR.

Bonn may soon be ready to consider another East German request for credit facilities. The German electorate has applauded these successes and welcomed the unexpected development in relations. But commentators have sounded a note of caution. In East and West, there is suspicion that things are developing a little too quickly and could get out of harmony with overall East-West relations.

Herr Kohl defends his policies resolutely. Yesterday he told a gathering of senior Bundeswehr officers in Travemünde, after returning from Moscow, that progress would be made in arms control only if East-West relations were better.

For this reason, his government wanted to put East-West dialogue on a firm basis, which would include all different aspects of cooperation and negotiation, without being limited simply to the question of intermediate missiles.

Karen rebel base falls to Burmese troops

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Burmese forces have captured another important Karen rebel base on the Thai border 250 miles north-west of Bangkok. A spokesman for the Karen National Union said yesterday that its guerrillas had been forced out of Klerday, a border stronghold opposite the Song Yang district of the Thai province, Tak.

After destroying much of the town with artillery and mortars, Burmese infantry moved in. They outnumbered the Karens by five to one. Rebels casualties were heavy according to Thai border police.

Klerday is the third big rebel base to fall in the past three weeks. The ultimate objective of the government is the most important rebel base at Maw Pokay to the south. It has been described as the heart of the rebel economic lifeline and is the keypoint for military supplies, the centre of their trade and site of their radio station.

The Government offensive against the rebels is the most sustained since the Karens began fighting for autonomy more than 30 years ago.

The fighting has forced more than 10,000 civilians refugees into Thailand. Thai authorities say most of them fled empty-handed and are very short of food, clothing and medicines.



Brussels meeting: President Mitterrand of France (left) with King Baudouin at Laeken palace yesterday. The President was in Belgium to prepare for next month's European Community summit.

Grenada to seek aid package for airport

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Grenada is to seek \$150m (£100m) in international aid to complete the island's airport and carry out other development projects.

"We will be presenting a two-year economic development package in the region of \$150m," Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, the leader of Grenada's interim Government, told a meeting of the Caribbean Group for Cooperation and Economic Development sponsored by the World Bank here on Tuesday.

Mr Brathwaite said the Grenada proposal included \$24m to complete its 10,000ft airport, which was being built by Cuba before the US-led invasion last October.

President Reagan had claimed that the airport, for which Grenada had already paid \$40m, would have been used by Cuba and the Soviet Union for military purposes and constituted a threat to US security interests. But the Cuban-backed Government of the late Maurice Bishop had maintained that the airport was exclusively for commercial purposes and to increase tourism.

Mr Brathwaite said he had emphasized the need to complete the airport to Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, who attended Independence Day celebrations in Grenada last week. Mr Shultz favours completion of the project.

US thinks again on quitting Unesco

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Hopes rose yesterday that the United States may reconsider its decision to leave Unesco at the end of the year.

Mr Gregory Newell, Assistant Secretary of State, speaking at a press conference in Paris after meeting Mr Amadou M'bow, director of Unesco, spoke for the first time in terms

of America's "firm, but not final, decision" on giving up membership.

He indicated that Washington might be willing to re-examine the decision if certain "notional changes" were agreed, such as greater budget control, and the "re-routing" of funds away from such contro-

versial programmes as education for peace.

Mr Newell said he knew of between seven and ten other countries reconsidering their decision to stay in Unesco, but declined to name them. If only four or five more decided to leave, the organization would be destroyed.

Thatcher lays down détente guidelines

By Richard Davy

Mrs Thatcher's burgeoning interest in East-West relations is not the result of a sudden conversion or short-term tactical considerations. It derives from a very thorough Government study of all aspects of East-West relations drawing on advice from inside and outside the Government.

As the Prime Minister explained in Moscow, arms control was getting nowhere and contacts between East and West had become so limited that "the risk of misunderstanding was grave". It was felt that the time had come for a new and deeper look at the subject.

As government sources put it, we have had more than 60 years of trying to deal with the Soviet Union, with its mixture of military muscle, revolutionary ideology, relative economic self-sufficiency, inefficiency, insecurity and autocratic rule, but the problem of restraining the behaviour which this mixture produces has grown over the past 20 years as the Soviet Union has become able to extend its reach around the globe.

The result of the study was a set of broad guidelines for policy over the next few years. It is felt that there should be more contacts with the Soviet leadership to reduce the risk of misunderstanding and miscalculation. Hence further high-level meetings will follow. Arms control is seen as too narrow a

field to carry the whole burden of East-West relations. There is need for broader understandings, provide a better context for arms control. There should also be more regular contacts on regional issues, such as the Middle East and Southern Africa.

On economic relations, the aim is to find a middle way between the optimistic concessionary approach of the 1970's and the punitive policies advocated by some people in Washington.

The tide of Soviet successes in the Third World is seen as less durable than was once expected. The Soviet Union cannot supply what developing countries need in the way of aid and trade.

In East Europe the aim is to respect legitimate Soviet security interests while championing the right of self-determination. In practice, the policy will be to continue differentiating among East European countries, developing policies with each as individual nations rather than simply as satellites of the Soviet Union.

Overall the aim is to persuade the Soviet Union that the West is willing to deal on the basis of equality of respect, rather than striving for superiority. At the same time the West must accept that change in consistency in Western policy is essential.

EEC cash for jobless in jeopardy

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

Money earmarked by the EEC for easing unemployment and helping depressed regions may have to be diverted to pay farmers, Mr Gaston Thorn warned the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday.

In his most apocalyptic speech so far the President of the Commission told members this could be one of the immediate consequences if the European summit next month fails to break the deadlock on reforms essential to save the Community for bankruptcy and collapse.

His speech brought abuse from all sides of the house. The "brother enemies" - as Mr Thorn called them - of British Conservatives and Italian Communists tried to outdo each other in invective.

"What has the Commission done?" asked Sir James Scott-Hopkins. "Nothing except moaned and whined gently, saying that it is all the council's fault. It just won't do."

Signor Guido Fausti told Mr Thorn: "The Community is finished. We cannot go on like this. We either have to make a fresh start or resign ourselves to playing a passive role."

During the day Mr Thorn and his Commission put the finishing touches to a tough set of new rules for controlling EEC spending which they want the European summit to approve next month.

These rules are to be studied by foreign ministers at an informal meeting in Paris this weekend, when the Commission is expected to put forward a review of the sterile argument how to solve the British EEC budget problem.

Howls of rage over wolf cull

From John Best, Ottawa

An angry dispute has erupted over a British Columbia government programme to kill between 400 and 500 wolves by shooting them from helicopters.

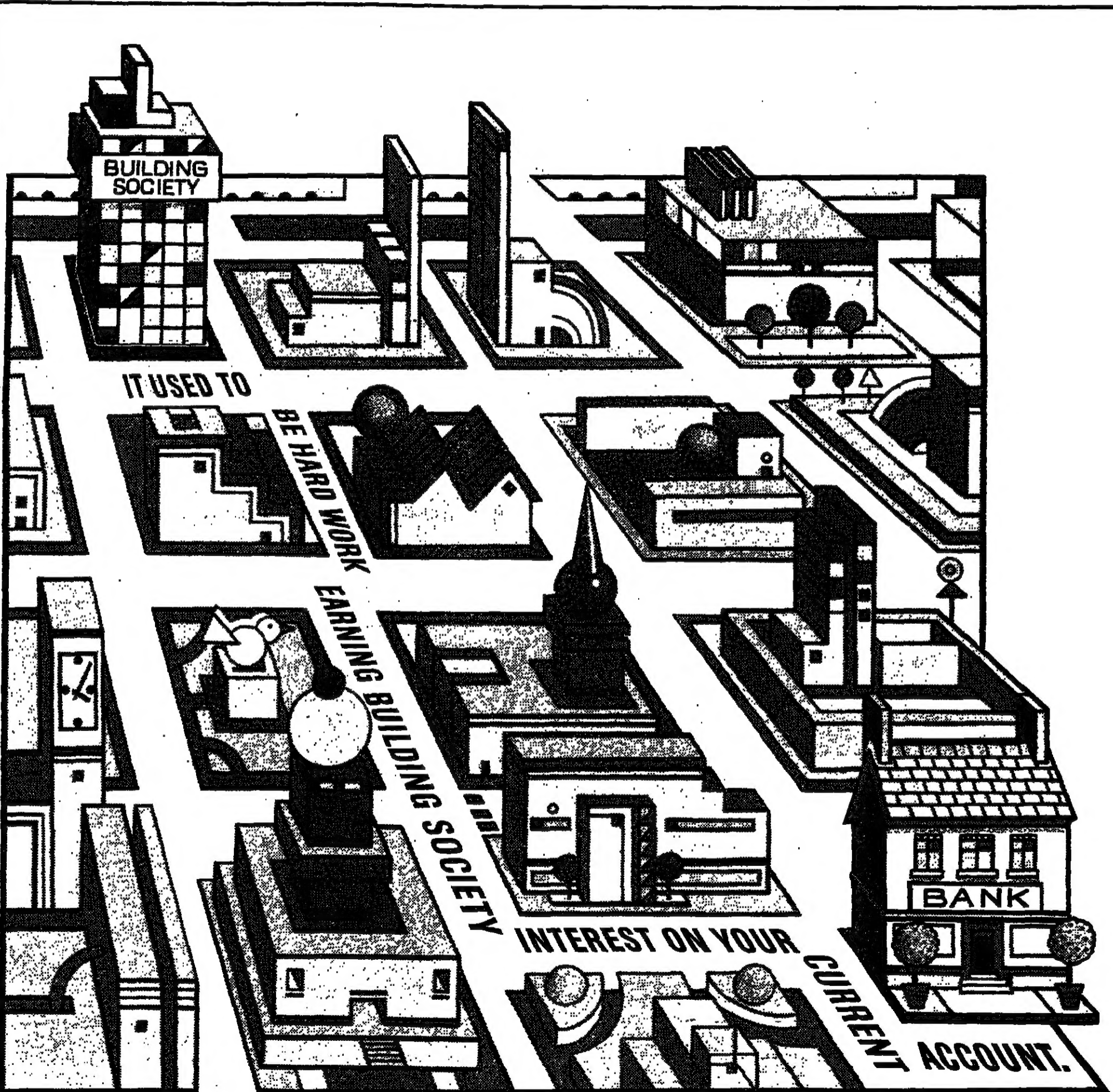
The dispute pits the Government against conservation groups and animal lovers in Canada's most westerly province. It has spread in a small way to the United States and some European countries, where Canadian consulates have been picketed by demonstrators protesting at the slaughter.

The cull is taking place in the remote Muskwa River region of north-eastern British Columbia. The provincial Government, through its Environment Ministry, has budgeted C\$30,000 (£17,000) for the operation, which it insists is necessary to control the wolf population and reduce the enormous toll of moose, elk, caribou and other big game taken by wolves.

Opponents of the cull contend that it is really being carried out for the benefit of hunters who want the big-game herds protected for their own sport. They also say, in defence of the wolf, that he kills only sick or aged animals.

On the other hand some biologists hold that wolves often kill game just for the fun of the chase.

Opposition to the cull is spearheaded by an international group which calls itself Project Wolf and is headed by the Sea Shepherd Society of Vancouver. The President of the Sea Shepherd Society, Mr Paul Watson, is best known as a relentless opponent of Canada's annual, east-coast seal hunt. At present he is appealing against a 15-month jail sentence and C\$5,000 fine imposed on him for unlawful attempts to disrupt last year's seal hunt.



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Panama leader 'forced to quit'

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

For all his colourful personal image, Bob Fosse (right, on set) has proved himself a disturbingly profound film-maker, never more so than in *Star 80*, which opens in London tomorrow: interview by Joan Goodman

Chronicler of America's extremities

Every country has its own select murders, which strike a chord and reflect the society in a way that makes them stand out from the bulk of crimes. In America, the Dorothy Stratten case was one such, a beautiful young Playmate of the Year shot by her husband, who then committed suicide. The director-choreographer Bob Fosse, best known for movie musicals like *Cubaret* and *All That Jazz*, has made a powerful, disturbing film of the case called *Star 80* (after the letters on the licence plate of Stratten's Mercedes), which opens in London tomorrow.

Neither a thriller nor a documentary, Fosse's film is a character study of Paul Snider, Stratten's husband, discoverer and ultimately murderer, a small-time hustler who saw Stratten as his ticket to fame and fortune and the magic "inner circle" of Hollywood celebrities. "I've seen so many Sniders in my years in show business," says Fosse, "people who bought the media's idea of Hollywood - wear the right clothes, the right tie, say 'hello' in the right places, know the right people and get into that inner circle, that little select group, and the gates of heaven will open and you'll be a success. Nor is it just true of Hollywood, it goes right through American society, down to the guy in Idaho who thinks if he could just get into the local country club his troubles would be over."

As played by Eric Roberts, Snider emerges not as a sympathetic character but as an understandable one. Fosse, Roberts and Mariel Hemingway (who plays Stratten) all believe he loved his wife. "As much as he could allow himself to care for any woman. His main love was himself. Yet I think in his own way he did care for her. When I say this to people they can't understand how he could love her and yet gain from her in a business way. But it's done all the time. Some of our biggest female

stars are married to men who are their managers."

Fosse's own involvement with the Dorothy Stratten story came when his close friend, the late writer Paddy Chayevsky, gave him an article about the case from a New York newspaper. "I read it and I thought, this is a vein I understand, the cheap honky-tonks Snider comes from. Before he broke through with his award-winning choreography for *The Pajama Game* on Broadway, Fosse spent many years as a performer in the small clubs and vaudeville joints that dotted American cities.

Nevertheless, there were obstacles to filming a real-life story. Besides Snider, there were two men in Stratten's brief life, Hugh Hefner, owner and editor of *Playboy*, was her mentor and father-figure. Peter Bogdanovich directed her in her only important film *They All Laughed*. During the filming Bogdanovich and Stratten fell in love. She moved in with him and had gone to see her husband to discuss a divorce when she was murdered.

"I wanted to use the *Playboy* logo because if I did a fictitious thing it wouldn't have had the impact," says Fosse. "So Hugh [Hefner] read the script before we filmed it and said: 'I wish you wouldn't make this, but I'll go along with you so far - we'll give you the logo and allow you to take photographs in the *Playboy* mansion so you can duplicate it'. And he invited me to one *Playboy* party. After the film was finished, he saw it and telephoned me. He didn't like it at all. He said: 'It's not true, but it's artful'. He didn't approve of the way I mocked the *Playboy* philosophy, but the serious thing he found fault with was the equation of sex and violence, which his magazine has always been against. I thought it was pretty good of him still to talk to me after he didn't like the film."

Relations with Bogdanovich were even more tenuous. "He called me

up when the film was announced and also said he wished I wouldn't make it. He felt I couldn't know what really happened, which is true. But I pointed out I wasn't making a film about him and Stratten but about Snider." Bogdanovich, who is publishing his own memoir of his time with Stratten, has seen the finished film but refuses to comment, except to admit his opinion is "not neutral".

A meticulous man who spends "18 months to two years making a film and six months defending what I've made", the 55-year-old Fosse put his own reputation as a drinker and womanizer (along with details of his open-heart surgery) on screen in *All That Jazz*. It won four Oscars and attracted "more criticism than anything I've ever done". Despite his long line of Broadway hits, and his distinguished record as a film director, Fosse became better known for always dressing in black ("a dancer's thing - it's a clean line and also if your shirt is wrinkled it doesn't show so much in black") and for his series of romances with beautiful younger women including Jessica Lange, Julie Hagerty and Ann Reinking. Is not the kind of exploitation he savages in *Star 80* exactly what he has done in his own life?

"It's been said," Fosse acknowledges with a grin. Though he refuses to defend himself, his former lovers have gone on record as praising his generosity and his help with their careers.

Short for a dancer, with an elfin energy, Fosse is a man who attracts controversy. Condemned by some as a degenerate, he counts among his closest friends some of America's best writers including Chayevsky, Joseph Heller and William Styron. So it is surprising that *Star 80* is Fosse's first solo script. "I've always worked with a writer before, but this time Paddy [Chayevsky] encouraged me to try it alone. I've always wanted

to write - I co-wrote *Chicago* - and the nicest thing anyone's ever said to me was Paddy, when he read my draft, he said: 'Now I know why you're so tough on writers. You don't need them'."

Star 80 was the most difficult film I've made. There were a lot of never worked in. I had a lot of help from tapes made by a journalist who'd covered the story and other video tapes of Dorothy Stratten promoting her films while she was alive - many of the lines in the screenplay are taken directly from life - but I was on my own when it came to the last scene, both writing and directing it. I knew the film would stand or fall by that scene. No one knows what happened during it. We know Dorothy went to see Paul, and we know he shot her and committed suicide and we know he sodomized her. That's all we know, all anyone will ever know. It was difficult to write and even more difficult to shoot. When we came to it I told Eric and Mariel: 'I'm going to choreograph this as if it was a ballet. That's how we're going to get through it'. I don't think it's noticeable in the finished scene, but we shot it by numbers - 'Now you sit down, with your legs like this and your hands placed so'."

For a song and dance man, Fosse has turned into a chronicler of America's extreme upward and downward mobility. Each of Fosse's mature films has a central character who is a troublemaker, whether Lenny Bruce or Sally Bowles, the director in *All That Jazz* or Paul Snider in *Star 80*. Despite his own glamorous lifestyle - a lifestyle he says he has abandoned since "everybody started expecting me to show up drunk and with a pretty girl on my arm" - Fosse is a moralist whose work takes us backstage, behind the scenes, and studies what happens when the costumes come off and the show cannot go on.



Television Crushing burden

Brass Tacks Reports (BBC 2) could hardly have got closer to "brass tacks" than in last night's assault upon the heavy lorries which belch and rumble through the country; it began with some interesting information about the baked bean industry of Wigan (which is a pleasant change from coals and Newcastle) before tackling the more serious business of a road freight industry which is now "out of control". It seems that England is the "most lorry-intensive country in Europe": good news for hitch-hikers, but not for those whose property and lives suffer from the depredations of the "juggernauts".

They move through towns like elephants trying to enter a mousetrap, and the noise is indescribable for those who live beside the roads which are forced to bear the weight of these carriers; even the soundtrack of the documentary was difficult to bear. Certainly they are no less destructive than the Indian wagons from which they take their name, although in this case the sacrifices are not voluntary.

Buildings are damaged or destroyed, roads shift and crumble, and life in the streets becomes impossible - as is so often the case, the companies are making a profit at the expense of individual citizens for whom, it seems, there is no legal redress. Although the tone of the programme was polemical, it amassed more than enough evidence to justify its stridency. It was a most unpleasant story.

Open Space (BBC 2) was concerned with *The Women of Durham Jail*, the small number of female prisoners who are kept in the maximum security wing of that prison. This was a dramatization of the letters and writings of four such women, the purpose of which was not entirely clear. As an account of prison life it was convincing, if laconic, but the programme was obviously meant to offer more than a simple documentary record.

The women incarcerated here were supposed to be "the most dangerous in the country" - even the male prisoners of Durham apparently think of them as "monsters" - and yet the programme came close to suggesting that they were articulate and reasonably agreeable people who just happened to be locked up.

That element of special pleading became most evident when one young woman, serving "several life sentences for explosions and murder", was presented as a chirpy and somewhat sympathetic character. It was interesting to hear what she, and others, had to say; but their accounts were not at all "moving" in the way that the film-makers, no doubt intended them to be.

Peter Ackroyd

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Theatre in New York Stoppard still accelerating

No matter how many new hit musicals and comedies it might boast, Broadway never feels quite legitimate unless there is also at least one critically and commercially successful drama. More brilliantly than any burst of fireworks, Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing* (Plymouth Theatre) began 1984 by so overflowing that gap that it may be around for several years. Virtually every commentator who has viewed both the London and Broadway productions has declared the latter superior. Not only has Mr Stoppard tightened and polished until everything but the subplot about Annie's silly, seedy, prisoner-playwright shines and cast light upon the other aspects of the play, but the designer Tony Walton has accelerated its pace by replacing the cumbersome London screens and projections with automated sets which move the action almost as fast as Mr Stoppard's imagination. Mike Nichols has directed with as much brio, and the only complaint is that lines go by so quickly that there is no time to savour, much less absorb, them. Even that has its advantages, however, for it leaves the impression that there is so much more to be had from the play that you simply must read it, if you can get a ticket, see it again.

Those who have viewed both productions generally contend that Jeremy Irons as Stoppard's protagonist in New York is better than Roger Rees in London because Irons is more vulnerable and because there is more sexual chemistry in his relationship with Annie (played here by Glenn Close with that "I'm available - maybe - and I'm good" air which entices men and infuriates women who do not have it).

Since we seem to be voting, I stand for Roger Rees. Jeremy Irons is indeed sympathetic in his outcry when Annie goes to her lover, and shows himself an accomplished stage actor throughout. The difference is one of size. Each is a winner in his class, but Irons is a lightweight actor of greater range and depth. To me, Roger Rees was much more convincing as an intellectual who could reel



Jeremy Irons: vulnerable and sympathetic

off Mr Stoppard's lines and Henry's plays. Because he had that stature, his personal pain was more barrowing (watered-down Aristotle on the tragic hero here) and his ascent to self-knowledge more moving. In the heavyweight division, we have Ian McKellen acting Shakespeare (Ritz Theatre), in which the actor exceeds his stated aim of keeping the Bard's spirit alive. We revere great playwrights, but I believe we think of them less than of, say, Agamemnon and Clytemnestra. Oedipus and Antigone, Hecuba and Andromache, Hamlet et al. Through Mr McKellen's personal commentary, his selection of anecdote and historical incident, the love he lavishes on the Shakespearean passages and his infectious ardour, he elevates Shakespeare into the mythological realm of his own greatest characters. Mr McKellen's acting may appear too technical to some Americans (meaning more dependent on vocal pyrotechnics than feeling and thought), but that would be a misjudgment. His line-readings are so richly detailed emotionally and intellectually that they are really too loaded to take in all at once. The style is roccoco, not mechanical. Another heavyweight is

Anthony Hopkins in the Roundabout Theatre Company's revival of Pinter's *Old Times*. He brings so many dimensions to his character that he suggests what his next performance should be: the Cauchon-Warwick scene from *Saint Joan*, with Mr Hopkins playing both sides. Marsha Mason creates an inner life that could teach a sphinx lessons in mystery and allure, and Jane Alexander is a resolute antagonist.

The Manhattan Theatre Club started the year auspiciously with Lee Kalcheim's *Friends*, about the reunion of two Yale room-mates (Craig T. Nelson and Ron Silver, an appealingly contrasting duo). Their dissatisfactions with their lives are drawn with no great persuasiveness, but their camaraderie is never more amusing than when they taste cheap wine left by dinner guests and make drinking it a punishment in a game.

The friendship benevolently faked by Vaclav Havel's autobiographical incarnation forms a poignant theme in the Saravast play being shown as *A Private View* at the Public Theater. As, respectively, Havel's supervisor at a brewery, a nouveau-riche couple, and a successful writer beg in varying ways for his approval to save the co-operating with the Czech Communist regime, the Havel character finds more pity than contempt for them and behaves like Christ with a sense of irony. In an exceptionally difficult role, because it is mostly reacting, Stephen Keep as the Havel figure leads a fine cast directed by the actress Lee Grant.

A possible Broadway transfer from the Public is a musical version of William Somerset Maugham's novel *The Human Comedy*, with music by Hair's composer, Galt MacDermot. Though the second act flags somewhat through too much telescoping of action and too many reprises (both mendable flaws), the show has championship qualities. Galt MacDermot has masterfully arranged his music, which ranges from gospel to ballad to jitterbug (the setting is a small town during the Second World War) and which thrives on internal rhyming.

Holly Hill

Theatre in London Gloriously through the lunacy barrier

See How They Run Shaftesbury

Tom Stoppard once claimed that *See How They Run* contained the funniest line anywhere in English farce: "Arrest me for these vicars." It was thus quite a let-down, as one coming fresh to Philip King's wartime hit, to find that the actual line is "Arrest me of these people". That exhausts my list of quibbles against an otherwise glorious evening.

King ends the piece with the sight of the cast vainly trying to explain the plot to one another, thereby giving reviewers a broad hint not to waste their time over this fruitless task. After all, if you have a peaceful country vicarage with a bishop due to drop in, and an assortment of other visitors most of whom have an urgent need to masquerade as the vicar, it is not plot that counts so much as what happens over the next 90 seconds.

Like Ben Travers before him, King winds up his first act with the leisurely motion of one taking aim with a cream pie and deciding exactly where it will make the most mess. He then lets fly with an action that gobbles up every farcical routine from the underwear chase and the compromising cupboard to a burst of gunfire that sends the cuckoo clock into

hysterics. Nothing is wasted. If one visitor shows his Army uniform in the sports box, the vicar is bound to go looking there for a croquet mallet to tackle an escaped German prisoner.

And if the German then lays him out with a warming pan, the sound (which tolls through the evening like a dinner gong) causes the others to look at their

watches. King can extract laughter from back references to *Irving in The Belles* and immediate wartime details as much as from the perennials banana skins.

Sheer craftsmanship apart, what marks the piece out as a classic is its ability to crash the lunacy barrier; as, typically, in a scene where one character

Zoe Dominic



Maureen Lipman's farcical miracle of comic articulation, with Derek Nimmo

Concert

ally the accuracy of our own Philharmonia, play sweetly, while the woodwinds are generally together and have an honest, if unspectacular, sound. And I like the brass, whose restraint lent a welcome tinge of darkness to his symphonies, but whose confidence seemed to surpass that of their colleagues.

There were encouraging signs at the beginning of the Seventh Symphony, where the orchestra plundered with properly veiled sounds the mysterious depths of the music. But you cannot play this work in such a manner all the way through if its constantly evolving ideas are to take shape at the proper pace. The allegro molto moderato section was played scrappily, and the breathtaking resolution that

follows it jarred in a way that the composer, ever conscious of a sense of unity in his music, would surely have hated.

The same composer's Fourth Symphony, a despairing work that seems constantly suspended in the no-man's-land of indeterminate tonality, was more gripping in its effect, even though dynamic contrasts were again played down and phrases were often crudely shaped. The woodwind soloists in particular never gave their solos enough dramatic presence.

But even if Berglund exercised rather too restraining a hand in those matters, his control of the general shape was convincing; the Scherzo never betrayed the smallest hint of lightheartedness, and the dark-

ness of the Largo, the heart of the piece, was unrelenting.

In these works Sibelius reacts deliberately against the fashionable excesses of Mahler. Liszt, in his Second Piano Concerto, which filled the gap between the symphonies on Tuesday, was very much the consciously avant-garde figure of his time. The unflappable soloist, Bernard d'Ascoli, made light of the piece's technical difficulties. However, the orchestra made no attempt to smoothen the rough juxtaposition of poetry, melodrama, banality and eccentricity in this wonderful mess of a work. Nor indeed should they have done.

Stephen Pettitt

Helsinki PO/ Berglund Festival Hall

It is probably unfair (and certainly uncharitable) to judge a visiting orchestra by their performance near the end of a gruelling tour. But the Helsinki Philharmonic, who with their conductor Paavo Berglund had given nine concerts around Britain in the previous 11 days, seemed to be weary musicians in their readings of two of Sibelius's symphonies on Tuesday.

Nonetheless, individual sections made some pleasant noises. The strings, although lacking the bloom and occasion-

Dance

Festival Ballet Orchard, Dartford

Much improved in presentation since a try-out two years ago, Festival Ballet's new small-scale touring programme opened on Tuesday at the attractive Orchard Theatre, Dartford. The idea is to be able to send ballet on a respectable level to theatres that could not accommodate or support a large company, by using not more than a dozen dancers with piano accompaniment.

Two specially created ballets were included in this programme, but it starts with a version of *Les Sylphides*, so the audiences know that they are seeing "real" ballet. The corps de ballet was surprisingly little missed except in the finale; all the solos and duets were performed in front of a proper backcloth, and who can com-

plain about Chopin being played on the piano?

One of the new works, *Enlil*, is an anecdote about a schizophrenic wife, her over-protective husband and a tragic dénouement in Victorian times. Created entirely by present and past members of the Festival Ballet, it shows more enterprise than achievement, but the whole-hearted performances were rightly applauded.

Andre Prokofyev's *The Aquarium* is a far more substantial work, which gives the small-scale programme a big-time appearance. It is a dozen pieces by Gershwin, about equally well known and unfamiliar, and shows a group of gay young things dancing away the years of Depression with occasional incursions of posters demanding work for those less privileged.

Draw your own contemporary social conclusions, or take them from one of the two programme notes quoted from

Proust (which provides the title) and David Niven. What matters most is the verve and stylishness of the dancing.

Mark Silver in a glitteringly suave solo and sophisticated duets with Andria Hall is at the centre of the work: a real star performance that would shine equally at a big theatre but is somewhat cramped on the small stage. Janette Mulligan is the most provocative and scandalous of the women and has entries exploiting both humour and virtuosity. Prokofyev cunningly shows off the strength of all the cast in larger or smaller ensembles.

Peter Farmer's costumes and decor, achieving much with limited means, reinforce the effect and ensure the success of a work that will, I guess, be popular not only on this tour but wider audiences later. The excellent pianists, David Elwin and Kevin Darvas, are both members of Festival Ballet's music staff.

John Percival

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Honouring the hermit of Hull

"I don't know how we are going to sit. This room's really only furnished for one person."

That isn't quite true: there is a chair as well as the small sofa. But a man from the BBC is about to arrive in Hull, and Mr Larkin is working himself into a panic. "At least you'll be on my right. That's my good side." The sentence is drowned by the high-pitched whistle of the hearing-aid. We drink champagne to steady our nerves. "It's the only thing you can drink all through the day, except" - a snarl of disgust - "tea!" "It's very good wine", I say. "It's not."

Outside in the garden, the sun is shining brightly, so indoors, the Venetian blinds are down and the thick curtains are drawn. "Is this some W. H. Auden act?" "No, it's to protect the spines of my books. Some days, if there's a particularly bright sun, it shines in all bloody afternoon." He speaks of the sunlight as if it were a menace comparable with friendly neighbours or rising damp. The doorbell rings. Enter *Kaleidoscope* producer with a tape recorder. After about three goes, it is established that he is called Mr Barfield. "Not Barnfield?" "No, Barfield." "I hope you won't think me rude, Mr Barfield, if I ask you when you are going." "Four o'clock." "Good. That gives us less than an hour. Can we do it in that time?" "Oh, yes." "I feel as if I'm about to be vivad".

Once the little machine is switched on, however, it is I whose nerve fails, and Mr Larkin rescues the situation. In a completely unshowy way, he is fluent, alert and totally professional. If I ask a question which he does not wish to discuss, he grins like a cat that's got the cream and makes silent gestures with his hands.

All this palaver is to celebrate the fact that his latest book, *Required Writing*, has won this year's W. H. Smith £4,000 literary award which we both agree, looking at past prize winners (Anthony Powell, Leonard Woolf, V. S. Naipaul, Thom Gunn) is rather more distinguished than the vulgarism Booker. The year the judges gave the prize to *Temporary Kings* by Anthony Powell, it was nearly awarded to Larkin's volume of poetry, *High Windows*. We can assume that, although he is being rewarded in particular for this volume of journalism, interviews and essays, the prize is a reflection of the high esteem in which his entire oeuvre is held. Certainly, as a book of recycled occasional pieces, *Required Writing* has already had great success. Mr Larkin praises the acumen of his publishers, Faber, who soon sold out of their first printing (10,000 copies) and have reprinted 9,000 more. He describes his pleasure in reviewing. "I really do take trouble. I read the book, make notes, all that sort of thing."

As the volume shows, Larkin is a direct, commonsense critic who is open to impressions and capable of changing his mind. For instance, the review of Jon Stallworthy's *Wilfred Owen* (1975) shows that he has become disillusioned with the Owen he had so idolized when the *Collected Poems* appeared in 1963. D. H. Lawrence and Owen were the two writers he admired most when young. While retaining his admiration for Owen's last work - "how did he do it - writing poems in



The Times Profile: Philip Larkin

the trenches, for Chrissake" - he is obviously disillusioned by the revelations about Owen's life and personal character.

When the tape recorder is off and we can talk naturally, I take him up on this. Is it fair to judge a poet by the standards of his life, rather than just by the words on the page? He concedes that it isn't fair but says that it is inevitable that you will. But one of the most fascinating essays in *Required Writing* appears to say the opposite. It is the essay about Thomas Hardy's first marriage which Larkin wrote in 1979. "In the sex-war, thoughtfulness is the weapon of the male, vindictiveness of the female", as Cyril Connolly wrote, but this was not war; it was more as if the freshness and delicacy of feeling that Hardy retained into his eighties required a formidable carapace of indifference and self-absorption to protect and preserve it.

The disillusioning thing about some modern biographies of Hardy is the extent to which they have emphasized his selfishness to the point where we can almost (but never more than almost) doubt the delicacy of feeling. Mr Larkin's own career as a novelist and poet seems to have followed an almost exactly opposite course.

Life is first boredom, then fear. Whether or not we use it, it goes, he bleakly enunciated in *Dockery and Son*. But the collection in which it appeared in 1964 ends on the more tenderly optimistic note of *An Arundel Tomb* in which the stone figures of a medieval aristocrat and his wife holding hands in death suggest:

Our almost-instant almost true: What will survive of us is love. But ten years later, in *High Windows*, the tone had become more

doggedly despondent. As for what will survive of us, or our country,

There'll be books; it will linger on in galleries, but all that remains for us will be concrete and tyres.

The tones of wistfulness, tenderness, sympathy, laughter and even hope (*Begin afresh, afresh, afresh*) were all present in *High Windows*. But there was also something else, which had been present in the oeuvre from the beginning, and which verges on self-parody. The very surname suggests fooling about, and in his public persona, Larkin seems forever to be surprising a hunger in himself to be more flippant. One discovers it in the hilarious interviews reprinted in *Required Writing*.

Is Jorge Luis Borges the only other contemporary poet of note who is also a librarian by the way?

Who's Jorge Luis Borges? The writer-librarian I admire is Archibald MacLeish.

What about your politics?

I've always been right wing. It's difficult to say why; but not being a political thinker I suppose I identify the right with certain virtues and the left with certain vices. All very unfair, no doubt.

Which virtues and vices?

Well, thrift, hard work, reverence, desire to preserve - those are the virtues in case you wondered; and on the other hand, idleness, greed and treason.

To describe all this as self-parody would be quite wrong if by that one implied that there was a trace of insincerity in it. Nor would it even be quite fair to say that Mr Larkin deliberately exploited the annoyance value, in Marxmount circles, of preferring Dick Francis to some of his

more avant-garde contemporaries, or of liking the Prime Minister. "Why do they go on about my admiring Mrs Thatcher. It's not just me. Why do they think she won the bloody election?"

Although he leads a modestly secluded life and does nothing to court the limelight, the high popularity of this latest book is ample proof of the fact that Larkin is a cult figure.

Mention Hull in any gathering which contains even vaguely literate people and pretty soon someone says the name of Larkin. He tells me he used to enjoy holidays on Sark. A little churchy anecdote about the parson who was craving to be "high" (he wore a biretta during matins) but who was kept under the thumb of the Dame. ("I'm not having a credence table in my chapel", she said). The clergyman, after moaning to Larkin about his bossy patron, asked, "and you, sir, are you of the cloth?"

It wasn't an absurd question: a tall, bald, gentle man in specs with an educated voice, Larkin could easily have been the half-lugubrious incumbent of some ill-attended fane. But what pleases him about the anecdote is that the parson didn't recognize him, whereas, back at the hotel "some frightful hippy" found out he was from Hull - "and of course the usual questions followed".

The knowledge that he shocks the lefties, and the realization that his "views" coincide with those of hordes of his fellow-countrymen, combine in Larkin with a high sense of irony. He really does think these things, and he really is depressive, and it isn't an act; but he laughs a great deal and he has more or less lost the language in which he could be serious.

Perhaps this combination of high

popularity and increasing flippancy has made it impossible to write poems. "I didn't give poetry up - it gave me up". He describes it as a sort of music or singing in his head. Obviously he regrets the fleeing of this music and doubts whether it will ever return. It is largely for this music that we honour him, a haunting sound, the best music in our century since Yeats:

It's like looking down
From long french windows at a
provincial town.
The slums, the canal, the churches
ornate and mad
In the evening sun. It is intensely
sad.

In one of his semi-comic poems, *Yers de Soci  t  *, he reflected on the chummy modern view that *all solitude is selfish*.

No one now
Believes the hermit with his gown
and dish
Talking to God (who's gone too); the
big wish
Is to have people nice to you, which
means
Doing it back somehow.

In fact, of course, all societies need hermits, none more so than those who have discarded their gods. Larkin's bleak townscapes, his refusal to blur edges, or pretend to be nice or provide us with saving illusions is precisely why we read him - the Simeon Stylites *de nos jours*. Hardy might have needed the "carapace of indifference" to protect his "poetic" sensibility. With Larkin, the position is reversed. He needed the artistic persona of a gloomy, woman-hating, cynic to hide the private self who is in fact an amiable and kind man, more at ease with life, I would guess than the "persona" of the poems. With jabbing inconceivable certainty, his best lines express the worst fears, the blackest moods, which it would be possible to entertain without committing suicide. Indeed, many must have killed themselves for less. Is his function that of the hermit? Does it console us to think that however miserable we are, there's some old misanthrope up in Hull even more wretched than we are - half drunk too, by the sound of it? No, that's too clever. ("For Christ's sake don't ask me anything clever"). It's chiefly the tone of voice, the Larkin music which is attractive, in prose as in verse.

We stand by the "picture window" in his house, built perhaps between the end of the Chatterley ban and the Beatles' first LP. As the sun goes down he feels able to open the blinds ("though you can get some bloody awful sunsets in the East Riding which blaze in and get in your eyes") and we stare out over the neat suburban gardens. I talk to him about his poem *Aubade* which he thinks will be his last. "Some doctor read that last line 'Postmen like doctors go from house to house' and said, 'It's years you know since doctors did house to house visiting. But I said, 'No. It isn't postmen, comma, like doctors, comma, but just postmen like doctors.' I meant the arrival of the postman in the morning is consoling, healing." Silence. Gloom. Light falling. "It's a bad day", he murmurs, "when I don't get any post".

A N Wilson

moreover...
Miles Kington

Crown Plus

Controversy about previous royal portraits has faded into invisibility compared to the latest controversy about a royal portrait (writes Norman Herald, our Royal Portrait Controversy Correspondent). For the latest portrait of a member of the Royal Family, entitled *Member of the Royal Family* by Sam Gallery, looks nothing like any member of the Royal Family.

"That's right", agrees controversial Sam Gallery, who lives in London's trendy Catford. "It's not intended to look like anyone in the Royal Family. I've been trying to get away from the normal image of the royals and ask myself: 'What do the Royal Family really look like? There's no real answer to that question, so I did this picture instead.'"

To the untutored eye, Gallery's painting looks more like a picture of a tin of dog food, with the suspicion of Windsor Castle in the background. It's executed in pencil on the back of an old Sainsbury's check-out receipt. The portrait was commissioned by the 3rd Battalion the Royal Mounted War Artists, of whom a member of the Royal Family is the honorary Colonel-in-Chief, though they're not sure which. How do they feel about the work of art for which they have paid £15,000?

"We have mixed feelings", confesses commanding officer Major-General Herbert Annigoni. "On the one hand, we think that Gallery has managed to capture some of the more intangible elements of the Royal ethos and transmit a feeling of royal remoteness, even the duality of royalty in a democratic age. On the other hand, we think it's a load of codswallop and a waste of money. On the third hand, we've had a lot of publicity out of it and recruiting figures have shot up since the portrait was first painted."

Public outrage over this latest royal portrait has been immense, according to the National Royal Portrait Gallery. But what exactly does this mean?

"It means that three people have rung up to protest", explains a spokesman. "If two people ring up, we call it an outcry, and if one person rings up, it's what we call a wrong number. We shall be displaying the Sam Gallery publicly for the next two months and if it doesn't arouse any more interest, we shall probably arrange to have it slashed."

The Mounted War Artists were formed in the Peninsular War, and although there was no previous tradition for this sort of thing, the British soon established a reputation for being able to paint faster in the saddle than any other nation. Among their battle honours are *Black Day at Omdurman*, *A Hard-Fought Draw Against the Prussian Blues* and the little-known *Charge of the Dark Brigade*. They have long since been mechanized, of course, and all their work is now done with camera and zoom lens. Normally, they keep a low profile, for fear of being shot, but now for the first time they have found themselves in the public eye. Sam Gallery thinks he can take the credit for that.

"Royal portraits are so far behind the times, it's not true. I mean, if you did a portrait of Princess Diana in the style of Whistler there'd be an outcry, for heaven's sake. So I thought I'd go the whole hog, and do a Pop Art thing. That way, they're only 20 years behind the times now. I mean, let's face it, even the Queen's face on our stamps is 30 years out of date, and most foreigners think it's really Princess Di."

When asked for a comment last night, Buckingham Palace said they were far too busy rearranging the Van Dycks to come to the phone.

Poles apart

Magnets, as every schoolboy knows, have two poles, north and south, one at each end as it were. But cut a magnet in half and you end up not with two separate poles, rather with two magnets again with opposite poles at either end. Nature, it seems does not like magnetic poles to exist alone. More than 50 years ago, however, theorist Paul Dirac showed that single magnetic poles could exist, as the magnetic "charges" on particles dubbed "monopoles".

Recent attempts to derive a "grand unified theory" of nature's fundamental forces have revived interest in monopoles, for such theories suggest that many supermassive monopoles should have been created in the big bang with which the universe is commonly believed to have begun. But in general, experimental

searches for the beasts have proved fruitless.

However, this new interest in monopoles has prompted S. N. Anderson and colleagues at the University of Washington in Seattle to reappraise some anomalous data of theirs. They had left some plates of "nuclear emulsion" - a special kind of photographic emulsion - more than 1,000 metres underground for 250 days, in the Homestake gold mine in South Dakota. On developing the plates, the researchers observed more than two million tracks in the emulsion produced by alpha particles from natural radioactivity in the glass plates.

What was most interesting were seven tracks significantly longer than expected for alpha particles of the energies typical of the possible radioactive decays. Anderson and colleagues suggest that these long tracks might instead emanate from the products of an exotic form of uranium fission induced by a superheavy magnetic monopole. (S. N. Anderson *et al.* *Physical Review D*, vol 28, p 2308, 1983.)

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research PARTICLE PHYSICS



Ernest Rutherford

High energy

Ernest Rutherford discovered the existence of protons in the nuclei of atoms in the early part of this century, so it may seem surprising that physicists are still learning about the properties of this well known constitu-

ent of matter. In particular, experiments that collide together protons at high energies reveal how the particles appear from highly distorted viewpoints of velocities close to the speed of light. Results from CERN, Europe's centre for research in high-energy physics, provide new insight into the proton's appearance at higher energies than ever before. In analysing the new data, R. Henzl and P. Vailin from McGill University in Montreal (where Rutherford himself once worked) have shown that protons appear "blackier, edgier and larger" at the high energies available (R. Henzl and P. Vailin, *Physics Letters*, vol 132B, p 443, 1983).

Nature's messenger

So-called supersymmetric theories are based on a symmetry between the basic particles of

matter and the "exchange particles" - the messengers that carry nature's fundamental forces between the particles of matter. One consequence of this symmetry is that a matter particle such as an electron, should have a "supersymmetric partner". This would be a particle with similar interactions to the normal matter particle, but with an intrinsic spin (like a top) more akin to an exchange particle. In the case of the electron, the supersymmetric version, the "selectron", would have the same electromagnetic properties, but unlike the electron would have zero spin.

Theory allows the selectron to have a mass different from that of the normal electron, but a recent experimental search for the selectron suggests that this mass must be more than 45,000 times that of the electron. The search took place at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in California. In the machine there called FEP, high-energy beams of electrons collide with positrons (anti-electrons) and annihilate to produce

a burst of pure energy from which new particles can be created. The detector known as the Mark II found no evidence for the creation of selectrons. (L. Gladney *et al.* *Physical Review Letters*, vol 51, p 2253, 1983)

Thirteenth state

CERN, the European organization for nuclear research, provides facilities for research in basic subnuclear physics used by more than 2,000 scientists from a number of European countries, including Britain. Situated on the outskirts of Geneva, it houses the machine that at present produces the highest particle-collision energies in the world. Now Spain has joined the organization, becoming the thirteenth member state. One hopes the Spanish are not too superstitious and that the union proves fruitful both for Spain and for CERN.

Christine Sutton

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 269)

ACROSS	1 Black letter script (6)	5 Smart (6)	8 Successful record (3)	9 Large prawns (6)	10 Patch-up (6)	11 Brisk pace (4)	12 Collapse of reputation (8)	14 Develop commercially (13)	17 Become sluggish (8)	19 Monstrous person (6)	21 Petty trifles (6)	23 Distinctive tone (6)	24 23rd Greek letter (3)	25 Customer (6)	26 Canvas roof (6)	
DOWN	2 Take place (5)	3 Thwarted (9)	4 Barrow campaigner (7)	6 Dry glass stalk (5)	7 Speed up engine (3)	13 Following cloud (7)	15 Evince (6)	16 Vulcan (7)	18 Leafless (24)	19 Ignominy (25)	20 Vile (26)	22 Others (8)	27 Rummel (7)	28 Foe (10)	29 Exit (10)	30 Foyer (10)

SOLUTION TO NO 268
ACROSS: 1 Follow 4 Cannon 7 Rage 8 Thirteen 9 Stealing 12 Red 15 Evince 16 Vulcan 17 Keg 19 Leafless 24 Ignominy 25 Vile 26 Others 27 Rummel
DOWN: 1 Fare 2 Lightning 3 Water 4 Cling 5 Neat 6 Obese 10 Excel 11 Equal 12 Recession 13 Dunk 14 Weak 18 Eight 20 Exits 21 Foyer 22 Joke 23 Well

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BOOKS

The weary cynic

The Anatomy of Power
By John Kenneth Galbraith

(Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

One would have hoped that a man who epitomized the eastern American intellectual's recurring love-hate relationship with the world of power politics would not have written such a lifeless and superficial book on power as this one has. Washington and Harvard are for the modern mind what town and gown were to the medieval, and of all the characters recently to have alternated as insiders and outsiders, J. K. Galbraith must have been one of the most conspicuous, however brief were his periods inside.

Part of that conspicuousness can be attributed to his glib, witty, part to his physical height, part to his cynical wit. On the basis of this book, it could certainly not be attributed to the quality of his mind or the attractiveness of his prose. There is evidence of neither.

His thesis, if it can be called that, is as follows:

Power yields strongly, in a secular way, to the rule of three. There are three instruments for wielding or enforcing it. And there are three institutions or traits that accord the right to its use. It is a measure of how slightly (sic) the subject of power has been analysed that the three reasonably obvious instruments of its exercise do not have generally accepted names. These must be provided: I shall speak of condign, compensatory and conditioned power.

And speak of them he does, since that dreary alliterative trinity appears on almost every page of this book as it drones through chapters on the sources of power (personality, property, organization) its dialectic, its larger dynamics, the emergence and power of high capitalism, the state and military religious and press power. There is a "final" word on concentration and diffusion of power which sums it all up: "Power is now diffused by its dialectic, of which sufficient has been said." Sufficient indeed.

The prose is humourless jargon of this kind throughout. It is outclassed in interest value by the foot-notes, though even they are revealingly modern.

The book is reminiscent of those trendy essays in colour magazines whose textual banality and generalizations about everything under the sun are normally garnished with flow charts and teagum tables. Sadly we have no charts here. One would have had more insight into the nature of power on one whole page of disconnected quotations. If only Galbraith had avoided the temptation of writing something himself and had decided instead to compile an anthology of quotations from all the books on power, which he had read by way of preparation.

When a disappointment from a man who is supposed to be so clever and so amusing. Perhaps the reputation which has preceded him, induces a false expectation of wit, yet how else can one describe a man but as a wit who, having luxuriated in all the good things in life - material and intellectual - can say he is "not particular about freedom" and that he thinks the Berlin Wall is also a "good thing" (in an interview in a West German newspaper)? Either he was joking or else he carries a weary cynicism much too far.

If this book had been similarly provocative it might have been more stimulating. It seems not to have been written by an academic of any great resource, since there are no fanciful excursions into the history of power, or studies of the play of power on different personalities. There is no self-criticism, and no doubt.

It is narrow in the sense that it is basically confined to an American context. It is suspect because it hovers over an unconvincing critique of the corporate state, written by a man who in his earnest advocacy elsewhere of a permanent prices and incomes policy would seem to be an arch capitalist himself. It is shallow in its concentration on so-called capitalist power, with barely a glancing reference to the wholly different workings of communist power. It is lazy in the absence of detailed illustration. Sadly Mr John Gunter and Mr Anthony Sampson have both in their time shown that they are better anatomists, even without the flow charts.

Charles Douglas-Home

Hype the good hype

The Wasp Factory
By Iain Banks

(Macmillan, £7.95)

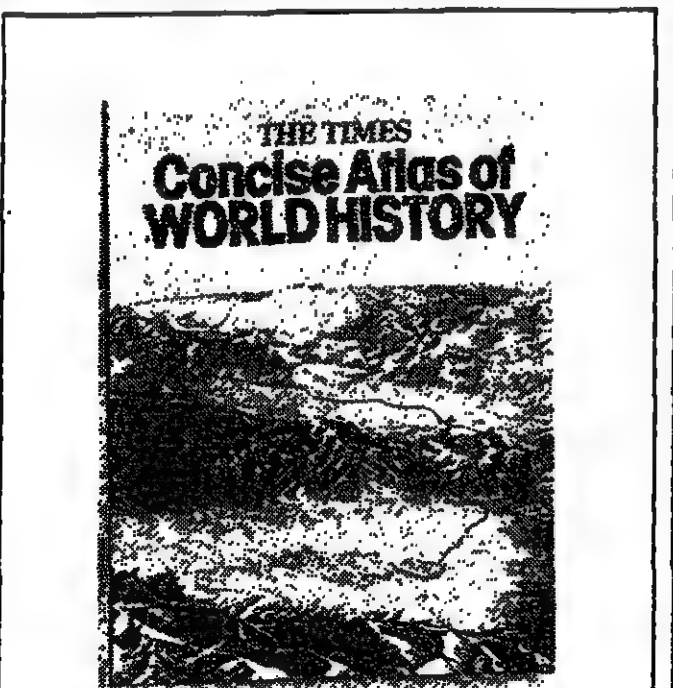
As a piece of writing *The Wasp Factory* soars to the level of mediocrity, which may explain

why Macmillan have become excited about it: most of the first novels which publishers are sent are so utterly unfit to be printed that in the end a competently executed work, in which an author has followed through an idea, however poor, with care and conviction, begins to look like a masterpiece, and can without blushing be called "a novel of extraordinary originality, imagination and comic ferocity". Or maybe the crassly explicit language, and the obscenity of the plot, which revolves about the supposed castration of a small child, were thought to strike an agreeably avant-garde note.

Perhaps it is all a joke, meant to fool literary London, terrified of seeming prudish, into respect for rubbish.

Andrew Gimson

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Fiona MacCarthy reports the latest grunt on gorillas

Living among the great apes

Gorillas in the Mist
By Dian Fossey

(Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95)

The image of gorillas as large, mindless and alarming (ref. typical entry in the Puffin Crack-a-Joke Book).

Q. What do you call a gorilla with a tommy-gun?

A. Sir.

should be dispelled for ever by this book by Dian Fossey which will be, and which deserves to be, one of the year's best-sellers, and which reveals gorillas as more subtle and congenial than many of the humans they so touchingly resemble.

Very ignorant people, some of whom I know, can hardly tell one great ape from another, confusing orangutans, chimpanzees and gorillas with a lack of expertise which Dian Fossey, who has lived amongst great apes for years, would pour much scorn on. There are also those around who mix up gorilla species, unaccountably and lamentably failing to distinguish *Gorilla gorilla* - which of course is the lowland gorilla and relatively common - from *Gorilla gorilla beringei*, the mountain gorilla. Dian Fossey's specialty, a very different thing. Hairier, and broader-chested. Having more expanded nostrils. Also a great deal rarer. In fact just about extinct.

No two gorillas look alike. Part of the fascination of Dr

Fossey's account of her 13 years in the Virunga Mountains (a rain forest area rather awkwardly divided between Zaire, Rwanda and Uganda) is the acumen with which she differentiates not just one group of gorillas from another but the characteristics of each individual animal. To pick out one gorilla from the crowd, the trick of identification is the noseprint, the placing of the nostrils in gorillas being the unique feature, like the fingerprint in humans. Dian Fossey was eventually able to give names to many of the gorillas in the rain forest. One was called Uncle Bert, after a real uncle who was said to be displeased, though he should have been quite flattered since his namesake the gorilla, judging by his portrait, had good nostril-formation and, besides, Uncle Bert's nature (he was gorilla-group leader until killed by the poachers) was particularly noble.

Gorillas are also well-distinguished by their sounds, or their vocalizations as researchers like to call them. Gorillas make noises of a wonderful variety, listed scientifically and recorded by spectrogram in Appendix E to Dian Fossey's book. The Pig-grunts and the Chuckles, regular response to tickling. The Wraahs, like little roars. The Hoots which usually precede gorilla chestbeats. The Belch Vocalizations, Dr Fossey's favourite, the most con-

tented of the gorilla sounds, to which she herself resorted, along with imitative scratching and feeding on wild celery in the gorilla mode, in her initial contacts with gorillas. Clearly one of Dian Fossey's ideas of heaven (for she is a wild romantic on the subject of gorillas) is sitting in the middle of a group of them exchanging Belch Vocalizations: *naom, naom, naom*. It is moving to discover that great apes, like many humans, get flustered when stared straight at, a reaction Dr Fossey managed to allay by winding vines round her binoculars, turning them into extended vegetation. Gorillas, which tend to smell like humans although stronger, have all-too-recognizable traits in their behaviour: scratching their heads as a sign of discomfort; drumming their fingers in boredom or impatience. Walking stiffly, lips compressed, whacking at passing vegetation. Gorillas, in that mood, are as theatrical as men. And in some respects their lives seem almost super-human. Their social arrangements, divided into units under the surveillance and protection of the silverback leader, have a marvellous sophistication and coherence from which, as Dian Fossey implies frequently, human society itself has much to learn.

Certainly the human beings in this story almost all make an alarmingly poor showing. The

cook leaves the camp when asked to prepare a bottle for a sick baby gorilla, maintaining in Swahili that he is a cook for Europeans not for animals. The research student carelessly sets the camp on fire. The tourists, who include an archetypal Englishman dressed for the rain forests in a dark suit with a briefcase, are almost without exception idiotic: the complete insensitivity of a French film crew causes a pregnant gorilla to miscarry. The maiming and killing of gorillas by the local poachers, whose depredations continue almost uncontrolled.

And what of the mysterious Dr Louis S.B. Leakey who originally selected Dian Fossey, then an occupational therapist working in Kentucky, as the person to undertake this long-term field study of the mountain gorilla, which he saw as the natural successor to Dr Jane Goodall's study of the chimpanzee? Dr Leakey, dispensing the resources of L.S.B. Leakey Foundation, emerges as a bit of a Professor Branestawm figure, with his aluminium crutches, while hair streaming in the wind. His idea of a practical joke was to tell Dian Fossey she needed her appendix out before she went to Africa. She got home from the hospital and heard from Dr Leakey that this was just his test of applicants' determination. Yes, the people in this story are untrustworthy indeed.

It is only Dr Fossey who



Much like humans, but in some ways nicer

emerges with integrity, fair and honourable in her dealings with problematic humans as well as great great apes. I recommend her book. Do not miss the Bibliography which is not only (as claimed by the publishers, undoubtedly correctly) the most extensive list of gorilla-based

literature in existence but is also peculiarly evocative, including an article by a Dr Fossey predecessor, Lady Broughton, called "Stalking the mountain gorilla with the camera in its natural haunts". This was published in the *Illustrated London News* in 1932.

Andrew Gimson picks fiction of the week

Still Life from Holland

Bearers of Bad Tidings
By Martin Hart

(Allison & Busby, £8.95)

Speranza
By Sven Delblanc

(Secker & Warburg, £7.95)

The only other of Martin Hart's books to have been translated from the Dutch is a study, said to be authoritative, of rats. In the present work, an autobiographical novel which has enjoyed great success in Holland, he writes with equal authority about grave-digging.

The first chapter resembles a brilliantly cooked dish, in which very simple, even ordinary tastes are presented with extraordinary lucidity and strike the palate as new and astonishingly delicious. The danger of recommending such food is that to many people it seems plain and dull. So also might a Dutch genre painting seem dull, because the scene is not sensational. In Hart's first chapter there is, in fact, an element of excitement: a man describes how he has taken an evening walk along the quayside and finds himself sliding, on black ice, slowly and inescapably towards the cold waters of the River Meuse, in which he may expect to drown. His character as a reflective and solitary individual, unusual but not disagreeable, is established. He remembers the thing which has mattered to him more than anything: riding on the handlebars of his father's bicycle. His father is a grave-digger.

Having avoided death himself, we are quickly presented with the son's main dilemma: how is he to tell his father that he is suffering from cancer of the pancreas and will suffer

torments and die. After an exploratory operation his father resumes his jocular profession, to all appearances never in better health. The length of the middle part of the book is too great to be sustained by the single question of when he will fall ill again: although the son's digressions about his love for his father are never less than delicate and well-written, and the cemetery scenes are amusing, there is no sense of development, there is an aimless feel to it, and gloomy meditations begin in the viewer's mind, about the reasons why so many novels get worse after the first 60 pages.

But the death at the end is good. Hart is a novelist of quality, who has won his public without resorting to the lurid sexual episodes which are the mainstay of many modern authors, and we are lucky to be able to try his work.

Sven Delblanc is not a Swedish Voltaire. Doubtless he does not hope to be a Swedish Voltaire. But he has written a book about optimism which bears too many similarities to *Candide* for the reader to avoid the comparison, and the feeling that though Delblanc does a number of things rather well, Voltaire did them better.

A young man has been expelled, on account of his liaison with a young girl, from an aristocratic household. His tutor has inculcated in him a naive belief in Liberty, Equality and Fraternity (it is 1794). Unfortunately the young man is a slob. His simple-minded surprise at the outside world's refusal to conform to his tutor's devotion of *Candide*'s glorious, innocent apathy. He suffers already from the self-centred and pretentious obtuseness of a semi-educated American college, flabby and corrupt without

knowing it, and his moral decline will fail to engage our sympathy.

He is placed in an ingenious predicament, finding himself a passenger on the *Speranza*, a ship taking slaves to the West Indies. A few planks separate him from their hellish suffering.

He protests indignantly, tries to buy their freedom, argues in vain with a priest who says that these slaves, being intended for a Jesuit rum distillery, are helping to build the Kingdom of God. Everyone in the miniature world of the *Speranza* is sustained by hope: "Without hope we cannot live; whilst under the guiding star of hope we can put up with anything." The hero starts to succumb to this perverted hope, which enables him to preserve his own privileges, to take advantage of a helpless slave woman, and to suppress a slave revolution made in the name of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. The fable is good, but the flatulent narration of it, accomplished through the hero's diary, is exceedingly tiresome.

The *Open Road* (Onlywomen Press, £5.95, paperback £1.99) is a collection of eight short stories, Jennifer Gubb's first, amounting to 90 pages. It is marked by her resolute avoidance of ambitious literary effects, her straightforward use of her knowledge of rural life in Devon, and her unsentimental description of trials which it is easier to forget or ignore: the killing for the first time of a chicken; the anxiety of a first train journey; the burden of looking after an incontinent old man.

Something happens in each story, and if an axe is being ground (not an unreasonable thing to do to an axe), it does not give off a strident or self-pitying noise.

Robert Nye reviews the poetry of the month

Sabreur against the Heavy Brigade

I take it that all right-thinking chaps dislike anthologies, those sticky bags of other people's sweets where even the real toffee seems to lose its taste. Still, no bag should be thrown away which contains a piece of toffee like this:

The poetry that I admire is light and easy. It's a change from those big guns that daily fire - though it has range, it doesn't move in earthy boots or call on God to save its soul, it's not obsessed with its own roots, deep as a mole...

The poet is Gavin Ewart and the anthology the latest Arts Council effort, *New Poetry 9*, edited by Julian Symonds (Hutchinson, £7.95).

Ewart's poem, entitled "Against the Heavy Brigade", amounts to a manifesto in favour of the civilizing and confusion-cancelling properties of good light verse. It is witty and wise, and the nice thing is that Symonds himself favours the kind of poetry here praised and practised by Ewart, with a result that the anthology contains a minimum of pretentious stuff. Roy Fuller, Barry Cole, Michael Hofmann, Vernon Scannell, and Derek Stanford stand out amongst the other contributors, all members of the Light Brigade, more or less - which is not to deny their seriousness, only to be grateful that they do not themselves advertise it with big guns and dull fire.

George MacBeth strikes me as a much improved poet these days, the palpable change of direction in his work seeming to have something to do with his removal a few years ago from London to Norfolk and his starting to write a smaller and



Gavin Ewart: model of the civilizing properties of good light verse

more particular kind of poem about what he found there. This is not to say that this always splendidly sophisticated writer has settled for being a "nature" poet or anything like that, but he does appear to have discovered a home for his imagination and his verse is the stronger for it. The *Long Darkness* (Secker & Warburg, £5.95) contains poems in which matters of life and death are presented with the unmistakable authority of experience. Once upon a time MacBeth's work was dressed to kill but had nowhere to go. Now it gives every appearance of plain urgency, whether the poet is writing about the birth of his son, the death of a woman he loved, or his feeling that he has wasted his own talents.

It is this last theme, treated head-on, which inspires what is

for me the most moving and memorable poem in the book, "My Father's Patents":
My father's patents in the dark,
Their red seals shining, show the way.
Black-framed they rise, on velvet ground,
And succor me from hour to hour.
These, in a far day, made some mark.
Worked more for honour than for pay.
And what their dead inventor found
Lives on in me, an inward power.

The delayed rhythm reinforces the note of awkward yet deliberate sincerity, as though the poet had arrived at his meaning slowly and with difficulty, having to overcome resistance in himself; it is only as the poem rises to its climax that the rhythms fall closer and more decisively together, as the sense demands. Here, as else-

where, MacBeth shows himself to be a real craftsman, and one for whom craft is subject to truth.

So is Sheila Wingfield, whose *Collected Poems 1938-1983* (Faber/Penguin Press, £8.95 or £5.25 paper) is full of lovely things. Wingfield's work has been praised in its time by Yeats, by de la Mare, by Herbert Read, and by other fellow poets, but somehow she has never been given general public acknowledgement as the important and original poet which she undoubtedly is. The distinguishing feature here is the purity of motive which one feels behind nearly every poem - this poet does not write at all unless she has something to say which she believes to be unsayable except in terms of poetry, and if that sounds precious or high-flown, just listen to her criticism of the process:

With palate for fine things but penny mouth,
I have to tell what sourness, drouth,
Juice, or sweet, lodges in the core
Of those I learn from, groan with,
Like, or else deplore.
 seldom I fail - left on a tooth -
Wisdom's honey or the wax of truth.

I like and admire the intensely active intelligence which gives quirky shape to much of all through the book. Wingfield's surprises are not the result of originality of manner but of originality of vision, which is of course what lasts and matters in the end. This is not light verse, but it is no Heavy Brigade verse either. It is verse which is just about the right weight for its own seriousness - which is to say, poetry.

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WHSMITH

THE TIMES DIARY

Supernatural's tease

High Tory circles are buzzing with the rumour that the recently ennobled Harold Macmillan has scribbled on the now staunchly non-conservative town of Stockton-on-Tees for the territorial element in his earldom. Stockton was Macmillan's first parliamentary constituency. He won it as a Unionist in 1924 and held it continuously from 1931-45, before becoming MP for Bromley. The choice of this most unpatriotic place on which to base an earldom is likely to be seen as Macmillan's reply to critics who say he should have been true to his stirring spirit as a Tory prime minister by continuing to refuse a peerage. Earl Macmillan of Stockton does sound a trifle... well, peerless.

Eastern promise

Lindsay Anderson, Michael Caine, David Essex and Sheila Hancock are among the thespian luminaries lending their names to the £250,000 centenary appeal on behalf of the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, to be launched next week. The splendid little Victorian theatre needs the money to put the finishing touches to its renovation project, which has already cost £400,000. Among other things, the Royal is notable for being in the forefront of the battle against theatre censorship. In 1956, Richard Harris (also an appeal patron) challenged the Lord Chamberlain with a play entitled *You Won't Always Be on Top*, which led to the eventual lifting of censorship in the early 1960s. We have come a long way from the days when Charles Dillan, the actor-manager, was trying to set up the Royal and a local vicar objected on the grounds that such an establishment would not be conducive to "the moral elevation of Stratford" and would "only attract the lowest characters".

Swedish massage

Robert Maxwell, the ambitious publishing tycoon, has been thwarted - temporarily at least - in his attempt to become the owner of Manchester United. But he may find some consolation in the recognition to be bestowed on him by King Carl Gustaf of Sweden. This afternoon, the Swedish ambassador to London will present Maxwell with the Royal Order of the Polar Star. This may do his ego some good, but Maxwell hasn't a clue why he's getting it.

BARRY FANTONI



"Can I have a last cigarette? I picked up the habit from a beagle."

Benn beware

Tony Benn, as he battles to find his way back to the House of Commons via Chesterfield, might benefit from a short history lesson. According to my tame psephologist, the last by-election in the town of the crooked spire took place in 1913, when a Liberal named Kenyon wrested the seat from Labour, who had held it since 1906. Kenyon remained the town's MP until 1929. Benn can't say I didn't warn him.

Short-changed

In view of the many expressions of public gratitude I have received for *Design Magazine's* bold intervention in the shocking matter of the non-existent lavatories at the ICA in The Mall, it may seem churlish of me to suggest that the Design Council, which publishes the magazine, should first put its own house in order. Despite its splendid facilities and its cafeteria, the Design Centre in the Haymarket contains no public lavatory in its three floors.

Mass transit

Sir Alfred Sherman (yes, it's him again), not content with his scheme to turn Marylebone station into a coach terminal and convert the railway tracks into bus lanes - modestly codenamed "Shermanway" - is now involved in high-level talks about taking over the two "slow" lines from Paddington. The plan is for the National Bus Company, along with British Airways and the as yet unapproached British Rail, to introduce a fast coach link with Heathrow. Passengers would check in baggage and get tickets at Paddington and have no further contact with officialdom (apart from Customs) until arriving at their destinations. Sir Alfred, who is uncharacteristically seeking Labour Party support on the ground that the scheme "will serve the masses", reckons the journey time would be no more than 20 minutes. London Transport might have something to say about it. In 1977 LT spent £30m on a Piccadilly Line extension so passengers could fly the Tube to Heathrow, and, of course, BR recently unveiled plans for their own Heathrow link.

PHS

Phone tapping: plug this gap

The House of Lords can do the Government a favour in the next few days when it debates the Telecommunications Bill, and in particular the ever-sensitive subject of telephone tapping. It can spare the Government an embarrassing repudiation by the European Court of Human Rights by bringing the regulation of tapping in Britain within the terms of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Before the Lords will be a new clause to the Bill, prepared and sponsored by the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU), which is designed to bring tapping, for the first time, within a clear framework of law and accountability. The POEU, whose members work in every aspect of the British telecommunications system, has campaigned for such a law since 1980.

The POEU is not opposed to telephone tapping per se. We accept that it can, and should, be used as an effective instrument to combat serious crime and espionage. But we believe that recourse to tapping should be exceptional, that each occasion should be strictly justified, and that the whole practice should be reviewable by the courts. At present our law is virtually silent on the subject and there is no accountability to Parliament or the courts.

That is why, in a tapping case brought by Mr James Malone, the European Commission on Human Rights has found the British government in breach of two provisions of the European Convention: Article 8, covering the right of individual privacy; and Article 13, concerning the right to a domestic remedy in the event of a



by Bryan Stanley

breach of the convention. The Malone case has now been referred by the European Commission to the European Court.

The POEU has made repeated efforts to promote changes in the law. Our most recent attempt, during the Commons committee stage on an earlier version of the Telecommunications Bill, was defeated only by the casting vote of the chairman.

On every occasion that we have promoted the new clause, we have warned the Government that the position on tapping in this country puts us in breach of the convention, but suggested that our proposals would probably correct this. On every

occasion, the Government has arrogantly dismissed our constructive reforms. We have made sure that the European Court is aware of this.

Now that the Commission has found the UK to be in breach of the convention and the Court is about to make its judgment (oral hearings start next Monday), perhaps the Government will at last accept the POEU-sponsored clause in the Lords.

The union does not believe that all official telephone tapping falls within the Home Secretary's warrant procedure; we do not believe that the criteria used by the Home Secretary for the issue of warrants is sufficiently rigorous; and we do not believe that the procedures followed by the Home Secretary for issuing warrants are sufficiently independent and accountable.

Nevertheless, for the sake of attracting maximum support in the Lords, the clause that we are promoting is a very modest one. We are seeking simply to give statutory force to exactly the same criteria which the Home Secretary insists he uses, and exactly the same procedures which he says he follows. This, then, concentrates the debate on the central issue: should tapping be subject to the rule of law and capable of review by the court?

The POEU does not accept that in a democratic society so totalitarian a power as telephone tapping should be exercised in a manner which is manifestly outside the European Convention and effectively above the law.

The author is general secretary of the POEU.

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35 years of Nato: Norman Podhoretz calls for greater support for Washington's policy worldwide to halt the steady American drift to isolationism

It seems remarkable in retrospect that public opinion in the United States should have been so steadfast for so long in its support of Nato.

Yet steadfast it has been, in spite of the seductive allure of isolationism, a temptation which runs much deeper in the American character than is generally understood in Europe.

To be sure, once the West European economies had recovered from the wounds of the Second World War, proposals were made every few years or so to get American troops out of Europe. But such proposals (usually associated with the name of former Senator Mike Mansfield) always excited more alarm in Europe than support in the US. Not only did they get nowhere within the American foreign policy establishment, they did not even make much political headway among the mass of ordinary Americans.

All this seems all the more remarkable when it is compared with the climate of opinion surrounding Nato today. In the past the American foreign policy establishment was unambiguously and unshakably committed to Nato, today many leading members of that establishment, including some proudly present at the creation of the alliance, have turned against it. The most vivid example of this change is the "no-first-use" of nuclear weapons principle advocated by a group of former government officials who have come to be known as the American "gang of four": George F. Kennan (the great theoretician of the containment strategy in the Truman administration), Robert S. McNamara (Secretary of Defence in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations), McGeorge Bundy (National Security Adviser to President Kennedy and Johnson), and Gerard Smith (Nixon's representative at the Salt negotiations).

It is still, I think, not fully recognized - least of all by the gang of four themselves - that a pledge of no-first-use would be tantamount to a withdrawal of the American commitment to the defence of Europe. But there is no escape from that conclusion. The threat of a nuclear response has always been, and remains, Nato's strategy for deterring the Soviet Union from exploiting its superiority in conventional forces to overrun Western Europe. American troops are there not to fight the invaders off but to make the nuclear threat "credible" by serving as a "tripwire". Under no-first-use, American troops, no longer needed for this or any other military purpose, would be withdrawn, thereby further weakening, and perhaps altogether cutting, the lifeline tying the US to the fate of Western Europe.

Top-level opposition, public resentment

What we have here, then, is the reappearance, in a nuclear age, of the isolationist tradition. That isolationism should once again have become an influential presence in American political life is not itself surprising; on the contrary, it was to be expected and was indeed predicted as a consequence of the defeat in Vietnam. But what is surprising and portentous is that isolationism should have returned under the sponsorship of men who once stood at the very head of the Atlanticist establishment.

Perhaps because such men are still unable to face up to the fact of their apostasy, the "gang of four" simply refuse to admit that no-first-use means for all practical purposes a withdrawal of the American commitment to the defence of Europe, and the dissolution of Nato. Within the intellectual community, however, proponents of this doctrine like Irving Kristol and the late Herman Kahn have been willing to acknowledge its implications. Yes, says Kristol, no-first-use would spell the end of Nato, but good riddance to it. The time has come for the Europeans to assume responsibility for their own defence and for the US to go it alone.

Kristol is by no means certain that the Europeans would take on this responsibility. But he is confident that a US disentangled



Blame yourself if the US goes it alone

from Nato would play a more forceful and energetic role in countering Soviet expansionism. Since this is the last thing the "gang of four" would like to see the US do, one has to distinguish between their brand of isolationism and Kristol's go-it-alone strategy. Yet these two schools of thought, so antagonistic in their objectives, are equally dangerous to Nato.

Thus, for the first time in its history, Nato now confronts a lack of support and even serious opposition from influential segments both of the US foreign policy establishment and of the intellectual community. To make matters worse, the alliance also confronts a growing degree of resentment within the populace at large. Night after night, seeing demonstrations on television vilify the United States for agreeing to deploy intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe, more and more Americans have begun wondering out loud why "we should have to beg those people to let us defend them".

This is certainly one reason why the American "freeze" movement, which calls for an immediate halt ("mutual and verifiable") goes the pious and politically prudent qualification to the building and deployment of nuclear weapons, is so popular even among voters not normally given to dovish, let alone pacifist, sentiments. For in the present state of the military balance between the United States and the Soviet Union, a freeze would all but dissolve the American guarantee to Europe.

On the one hand, it would prevent deployment of the intermediate-range missiles from going any further, thus "decoupling" Western Europe and the United States; on the other hand, it would prevent modernization of the American strategic force, thus forcing the US

of the Soviet Union, the United States would in my opinion be unable to hold on for long to its own political culture. There too the number of appeasers would rise as the power of the nation declined, with Red Vichyism coming to look like the safest of all political arrangements.

In defending Nato in these terms, which amount to saying that the United States is now mainly bound to Western Europe as a kind of hostage, I am poignantly aware of how wrong, how lacking in vitality, the case has become. But what else can one do? Like millions of other Americans, I have grown more and more to resent the apparent absence in Western Europe of any enthusiasm for the alliance, or any appreciation of its achievement in preserving both the peace and the freedom of the countries living behind its shield.

We are repeatedly told that there is a "silent majority" in Europe - and again, if the polls can be trusted, a very large one - that does appreciate these things. But mostly we hear from the raucous minority, and what we hear is foul and offensive: that the United States is as bad as, or worse than, the Soviet Union, and that Ronald Reagan is a greater threat to the peace of the world than was Yuri Andropov.

Support is a two-way process

Even when this preposterous neutralism, or the pernicious hatred of America that often goes with it, is challenged by Europeans, it is usually done in language that seems weak and defensive, for example, "as between Moscow and Washington, on the whole, and with all due reluctance, I suppose I prefer Washington".

This kind of thing has already begun taking the heart out of American backing for Nato. For the fact is that Americans who support Nato need the support of European supporters of Nato. We need to hear from those Europeans who know that the free world is a reality and not counterfactual, to be referred to sardonically in inverted commas; that its institutions represent an immense human achievement not easily duplicated; that its survival is threatened by an imperialism fully comparable in political, moral and military terms to Nazi Germany in the late 1930s; and that the future of liberty and democracy depends on the power and resolve of the United States, not in Europe alone but in such other vital areas as the Middle East and Central America.

These were the ideas which gave birth to Nato 35 years ago. They are as valid today as they were then; indeed, they are made even more compelling today by the tilt in the military balance away from the United States and towards the Soviet Union.

Since to some degree the rise of neutralism in Europe and of its isolationist counterpart in the United States is a frightened response to this development, the first order of business must be a military build-up aimed at creating a greater sense of western security. And if, as many advocate, such a build-up should include a strengthening of the conventional forces of the West along with a modernization of its nuclear arsenal, so much the better.

But military measures are not enough. They will have to be accompanied by a more positive European affirmation of solidarity with the United States in areas outside the jurisdiction of Nato, especially the Middle East and Central America.

Otherwise, the isolationist temptation will prove impossible to resist, even for Americans like myself. Though we believe that isolationism is not a viable policy, if the only alternative is being dragged down by our allies, even we would be forced to take our chances at trying to go it alone.

The author is editor of the *American Journal* Commentary.

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Ronald Butt

Making the grades for university

In his introduction to the 21st report of UCCA (the Universities Central Council on Admissions) the chairman, Dr Harry Kay, drew attention to the fact that, despite an increase in the number of home candidates, the number accepted has decreased by about 5,000 in the last two years since the government's "cuts upon the universities" in July 1981. In consequence, the qualifications of accepted candidates have been pushed up, and Dr Kay believes that "the increasing emphasis that has to be placed upon examination grades is to be regretted."

This is especially so, he adds, "when it is borne in mind that the school-leaving examinations (A-levels) were not designed for purposes of university selection, and that fine shades of difference between grades are having to carry more significance than was intended when the grading system was designed."

Yet at the moment Dr Kay was declaring that too much hinges on A-levels, with the result that well qualified candidates are rejected, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, has unilaterally announced that it is withdrawing from the Cambridge colleges' own entrance examination, and intends in future to use the A-level result as the only written test for candidates.

In practice, since Oxford and Cambridge can pick and choose, this will mean that the minimum requirement for success at Emmanuel will be three grade A results at A-level. The successful candidate will be chosen from those with this basic qualification on head teachers' reports and by college interviews. Two kinds of interview, I understand, are planned: one strictly academic, the other designed to explore personality and motivation. These interviews are intended to sort out candidates with broader intellectual and cultural curiosity from those who might be described as swots.

The primary object of all this is social. It is intended to make entry easier for clever candidates from maintained schools (who do not have the same facilities as candidates from independent schools to prepare for the special Oxbridge examinations), to compete on A-levels, Emmanuel also justifies the decision on the grounds that its tutors' own experience, A-level grades are a better indicator of ultimate Tripos performance than are Cambridge examination results.

Now the contrast between Emmanuel's switch to the criterion of A-level grades and Dr Kay's worries about rejection by A-level grades may be less sharp in the reality than in appearance. The grade A in this examination is the broadest of the bands, covering marks of from (say) 72 per cent to 98 per cent, which will give Emmanuel a substantial reservoir to choose from. Dr Kay's complaint was rather about the need of other universities to turn away applicants on the narrower distinctions between grades B, C and D marks.

Even so, both attitudes raise the question where the A level emphasis is taking us. My impression is that most academics believe that in the next two or three years, other Cambridge colleges and then probably Oxford will have to follow Emmanuel. The effect of both the dropping of the seventh term entrance examination at Oxford (also designed to help the state schools) and the switch to A-levels for Oxbridge entrance will be to drive schools (not least the independents) to push young people into intensive A-level preparations, perhaps inducing the mental attitudes of the swots.

Paul Pickering

They're not hooked on hamsters here

The year of the rat is upon us, which I am assured by my Chinese friends can include any old rodent and is a time for rejoicing. But up in the wintry suburbs of North-west London shovels are poised for first roundings of a Syrian kind.

A plague of Syrian golden hamsters, quite undisturbed by traps, frost or poison, has terrorized Hook Walk on the Burnt Oak estate for the past few years. They often wake up in February to look for a crunchy three piece suite. "The creatures move into houses when it gets really cold," said councillor Jim Brophy with a sigh. "We have tried digging them out, but it's extremely hard to find them. They are very, very clever."

One pensioner dispatched hundreds with an air rifle with telescopic sights in the long summer "season", while other residents put up steel shutters and barricades on doors. Mrs Lilly Dean left her house screaming. "Thirty-seven of them got into her settee and eight into her armchair," said Mr Brophy, obviously a man for statistics. Once the beasts are installed in the furniture they pop out after dark to menace the householder who has probably just settled down with a mug of Horlicks to watch Terry Wogan. The Hook Walk hamster may have the body of a second-hand toupee, but together they have the collective soul of Genghis Khan.

"Cats don't want to know. In my opinion a cat could not cope with one because they're so wild," said Mr Brophy. "People are terrified of them." Now there is even talk that these "superhamsters" have escaped from the Colindale "germ lab".

When brain damaged hamsters with a nerve virus escaped from Yale University last year, frightened people living in faraway New York jammed radio station switchboards asking for advice. And a national meeting of our Women's Institute condemned the implanting of human cells into hamsters' bodies in Japan. The idea of marauding

Hamloids, half-man and half-hamster, infesting Tokyo sans culottes was too much for the ladies.

Yet despite this primeval loathing, the idea that Ministry of Defence buffoons are developing an SAS Attack Hamster is probably far fetched. The Russians are so short of protein that before one could say "Welcome Comrade Lemming", they would be between the blinis.

The beast does seem to be here to stay. "They push out the local rats and mice," said Mr John Burton, of the Flora and Fauna Preservation Society. "There have been eight or nine hamster outbreaks like the ones at Burnt Oak or Bury St Edmunds. Hamsters appear to like towns and they would tend, I think, to move into London."

"But I wouldn't say they were superhamsters. They are used to low temperatures at night in Syria, and all I can conclude is that the people on Hook Walk must have very soft cats."

"Theoretically, they could spread throughout the country," said eminent naturalist Sir Christopher Lever. "The reaction of the people in Burnt Oak is a normal householders' reaction. One is always hearing unsubstantiated stories of minks attacking babies. If an animal does not run away, people think it dangerous. But all a hamster will give you is a nasty nip."

Sir Christopher pointed out that the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act does not include ravens, hammers and so the forces of law and order are powerless as the determined animals march south into Finchley, unaware they are entering Mrs Thatcher's constituency.

"The best way to stop them is to feed them oatmeal mixed with plaster of Paris," said Mr Brophy. "It's the only way to kill them." The Prime Minister is of course an expert on concentration. Meanwhile more of the beasts are awakening in Burnt Oak.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE CLEAN BREAK

Today the House of Commons will have its first opportunity to consider the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill. So far the Bill has had a charmed life: it has come through the Lords virtually unscathed. It does not deserve the same fate in the Commons. The Bill proposes useful reforms, but it has deficiencies. Nowhere are these more apparent than in its provisions for a "clean break" after divorce.

The Bill proposes that a court faced with a financial application after divorce should consider in every case whether it would be appropriate to make an order finally terminating the parties' obligations towards one another, either at once or after a period of adjustment. This is the principle of the clean break. It represents an important change of direction for our matrimonial law.

The present statute requires the court, in making a financial award after a divorce, to try to place the parties in the same financial position as they would have been in had the marriage continued. This creates a statutory objective which embodies a principle of life-long maintenance at the standard enjoyed during the marriage. Such a principle may have made sense at a time when divorce was exceptional and required proof of a matrimonial offence; but it is hard to justify today, when divorce is common and a husband may find himself divorced without fault on his part. What is more, the statutory objective has proved quite unworkable in practice: few husbands have the resources to support two homes (often two

families) out of one income, still less to support the first one at its previous level. The Bill rightly proposes the abolition of this statutory objective.

The policy of the clean break, with its idea that there should be a once and for all division of the matrimonial property, accompanied by a termination of mutual maintenance obligations between the spouses, is theoretically an attractive one. Its aim is for the parties to become financially self-sufficient and independent of one another, so enabling them to put their past behind them and start a new life which is not handicapped by their previous failed relationship.

In reality, however, the clean break can only rarely be accomplished without causing injustice to the wife. In the great majority of cases, a wife suffers economically by marriage as a result of putting the interests of her husband and the children before her job and her economic independence. There is evidence that it is the break in a woman's working life, coupled with her family role, that accounts for the greatest difference in her earning capacity compared with that of a man. Even if she is later able to resume work and earn enough to keep herself, there will usually have been a permanent impairment of her earning capacity.

The Bill wholly fails to face this problem. It simply leaves it to the court to decide whether it would be "appropriate" to impose a clean break. The Bill's promoters suggest that the type of case in which the court would wish to impose a clean break would be the short, childless

marriage between young people, or the marriage where there is enough capital to provide adequately for both parties in the future. Both cases would indeed be admirable candidates for a clean break order, and indeed they are precisely the cases where the court already tries to achieve such an order, provided the wife consents; but, once the present statutory objective has been removed, a wide range of other cases could well be subjected to the clean break policy. In view of the superficial consideration that this major policy change, with its inherent risks, has received, it is little wonder that the women's organisations are apprehensive.

Proper guidelines are needed if the Bill is not to create the risk of serious injustice. The person at risk is less the woman with young children to look after, or the woman who, after a long marriage, has no reasonable prospect of supporting herself, than the woman who is capable of earning a living, but whose earning capacity has been stunted by the marriage.

Where it can be demonstrated to be practicable, the clean break is an admirable objective. Any remedy which helps to remove the taint and bitterness generated by a continuing maintenance liability, itself subject to variation of further applications to the court, must obviously be sensible and in the public interest. But if this Bill is not merely to replace one kind of injustice for another it is vital for Parliament to give proper consideration to the grave practical problems involved in translating this laudable ideal into a workable and just reality.

SOLEMN BUT SELDOM BINDING

All that has occurred since the Foreign Secretary first announced the plan to de-unionize the work-force at GCHQ Cheltenham reinforces the point that, however maladroitness he may have gone about the politics of his decision, it was fundamentally right. The Cheltenham operation is deemed to be crucial to our national security. It should be shrouded in decent obscurity in order to conduct its business successfully without the glare of controversy. Yet it has become the flavour of the month for anybody and everybody with a taste for criticizing the present Government, for insensitivity (a backbencher), inhumanity (a bishop), despotism (the leader of the Opposition) or union-bashing (the trade unionists one and all).

Responsibility for that state of affairs cannot be solely laid at the feet of the Foreign Secretary. The action he proposed was provoked initially by the fact that trade union disruption had previously and deliberately deprived the country of this vital service of intelligence; and on many critical occasions. On grounds of national security there was thus a paramount need to prevent such disruption recurring at Cheltenham; but so long as the trade unions have any official presence in that establishment, or pretext for discussing any of its arrangements, there could be no lasting

guarantee against such a recurrence.

Yesterday the Select Committee on Employment criticized the Government for its handling of the affair. It put forward six recommendations which included a suggestion that the Government should give serious study to whatever legally binding assurances the trade unions could offer in order to make arrangements at Cheltenham totally effective. Trade union leaders have already held discussions with ministers and with Sir Robert Armstrong, the Secretary of the Cabinet; and there are likely to be more. Meanwhile the Government is right to reject the formula put up by the select committee. The sole test ministers should continue to apply, is what arrangements are necessary to guarantee the security of supply of vital signals and electronic intelligence in fact as well as theory.

A solemn and binding covenant by trade union leaders is certainly not enough, where national security is involved. The trade unions might be prepared to offer a no-strike agreement and there is existing statutory provision for such a solution, under section 18 (4) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 which makes collective agreements prohibiting strikes and disruption legally binding if they are in writing. They can be incorporated into

individual employment contracts. But the most the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary can offer the unions is an arrangement whereby the civil servants at GCHQ can be permitted to remain members of a union, as individuals, but cannot call upon the union in any dispute over pay, conditions, or questions of career planning and cannot communicate any information to that union about the life and work of GCHQ.

Each Cheltenham official would thus be bound by an individual contract stipulating instant dismissal if any kind of industrial disruption was attempted. Each individual's membership of a union would thus be preserved, but only in such conditions that it would be almost entirely symbolic. The one benefit they would receive from such membership would be that they would be paying a subscription to an organization which, through its civil service-wide negotiations, would determine the salary paid to its members. No other service could be offered by the union to any of its members at Cheltenham without breaching the security requirement set out by the Foreign Secretary, and amply justified by the unfortunate exposure which Cheltenham has received in recent weeks. It may seem a high price to pay for a symbol but the officers of MI5 and MI6 are without even that.

FUEL FOR FEAR

Over the past 10 years the nuclear waste treatment plant at Sellafield has suffered a series of leakages of radioactive materials which should have been isolated securely in special reservoirs and tanks. The latest incident which was the subject of harsh criticism yesterday by two of the Government's safety inspectors can only have damaged the confidence of ordinary people in the activities of the nuclear industry.

Some changes in senior management have now been made by British Nuclear Fuels to correct deficiencies in supervision at the plant identified in the inquiry. Similarly, new electronic alarms and alterations in the methods of processing waste radioactive liquids are being introduced to avoid a repetition of the incident. Yet these actions cover only the superficial matters exposed by the investigations of the Health and Safety Executive and the Department of the Environment. With the benefit of hindsight it is easy to complain about shortcomings in the nuclear industry, or for that matter those of other commercial activities which have been shown belatedly to be a source of environmental pollution. However in the case of the develop-

ment of nuclear power the troubles arising from the disposal of radioactive waste are not a question of wisdom after the event.

For instance, eight years ago the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution concluded that there should be no commitment to a large programme of nuclear power until it was demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt that a method existed for ensuring the safe handling of radioactive wastes for the indefinite future. Most of the issues causing concern and the gaps in understanding which that study revealed exist still, and the incident at Sellafield only serves to reinforce the doubts which those raised. The contamination was caused by an accidental discharge during maintenance work. A quantity of radioactive material escaped via an effluent pipe line into the Irish Sea through which the company is permitted to emit a limited amount of low level radioactive waste liquid. Because of the unusual circumstances the waste contained a large concentration of organic chemical solvent which is not normally discarded and the principal radioactive material was in the

form of a scum referred to as crud. It was this pool of solvent and radioactive materials it brought to the surface which contaminated the beaches and other objects. As it was not a mixture of waste that was handled normally there was no information from past experience for predicting that it would behave in this way.

British Nuclear Fuels may think it a cruel irony that the contamination was detected quickly only because the Greenpeace environmental group were staging a protest by the effluent pipeline and their dinghies were polluted. But that should not detract from the lesson that knowledge about the behaviour of materials released to the environment is far from complete, and that also applies to the techniques intended to store them securely.

There is a clear need for a significant programme of fundamental research by environmental scientists into the factors which influence the behaviour of radioactive wastes over the short and long term. Until then materials from defence waste and nuclear power stations, both those operating and those under construction, cannot be handled with full confidence.

'Disaster area' for the homeless

From Lord Hylton and others

Sir, On Wednesday, February 8, the House of Lords debated the increasing number of homeless in England and Wales, estimated now at about 74,000 households, or some 170,000 people. Of these probably a quarter are in Greater London and the single homeless are almost certainly underestimated. Several new and original proposals were made.

The Government should declare Greater London and its immediate surrounds a national disaster area as regards homelessness. It should appoint a special commissioner with wide powers and his own independent budget.

The commissioner's first task might well be to mobilize housing, so that it is no longer necessary for local authorities to place homeless families, at great cost, in unsuitable bed-and-breakfast premises.

To this end he should be empowered, if necessary and subject to proper safeguards, to requisition vacant property, including houses belonging to statutory bodies and void Housing Revenue Account dwellings, also empty privately owned premises. (In 1981 there were 121,000 vacant public sector houses.)

A second task for the commissioner should be to stimulate greater housing and care for the single homeless.

Action is also needed outside London. It might take the form of local consortia for housing and care. The present separation of powers could be overcome if the following were brought together at district level: The housing authority, social services, the area health authority,

also housing associations and other appropriate statutory services and voluntary bodies.

An independent chairman seems desirable to help make such a local consortium effective as a co-ordinator and catalyst. This proposal is based on experiments already tried in Oxford City and does not require legislation.

Nationally, "assured" tenancies under the 1980 Housing Act should be adapted to provide both new and rehabilitated houses for homeless low-income people. These could be financed by an extension of the DSS "high-rent" scheme.

The priority groups under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, 1977, should be immediately enlarged to include young people aged 16 to 18 who are leaving local authority care, or who for some particular reason are unable to live with their parents. There can be few others more at risk of lifelong damage.

As soon as possible the priority groups under the 1977 Act should embrace single homeless people over 50 and within a few years the over-40s.

Some 18 years have passed since the epoch-making film *Cathy Come Home*. The condition of the homeless remains painfully acute. We therefore commend these proposals to Government and to the relevant statutory and voluntary bodies.

Yours faithfully,
HYLTON,
HALSBURY,
JANE EWART-BIGGS,
KILMARNOCK,
House of Lords,
February 13.

Soviet ideology

From Dr J. I. Gleisner

Sir, Alexander Zinoviev is without doubt a very clever man, but his views on Soviet affairs must be treated with caution. I will take just two of the arguments he advanced in the course of being interviewed by Alan Hamilton (January 19) and show where, in my opinion, he goes astray.

While Professor Zinoviev is right to emphasize the enormous role ideology plays in Soviet society, he is certainly wrong to imply that the ideology is monolithic and so probably guilty of exaggeration when he says that nobody any longer believes in it.

It is simply not true to say that a single ideology exists in the Soviet Union today. Professor Moshe Lewin is only summarizing the results of recent research when he writes, in a foreword to Basil Kerblay's recently translated study, *Moderate Soviet Society*, that "More than one ideology, a mixture of modes of thinking and frames of reference, coexist not only in society, at large but also inside the party and the leadership" (p. XXV).

In recent decades the ideology has been forced to accommodate quite divergent ways of thinking as the leadership seeks, pragmatically, to respond to the problems involved in ruling an increasingly complex and diversified society. There is every likelihood, therefore, that the ideology also incorporates at least some of the things Soviet people believe in

and some evidence, too, to suggest that it does.

If, as many Sovietologists, including myself, believe, there is more than one ideology in use, then Professor Zinoviev's gloomy prognosis must also be qualified. The forces of inertia are indeed great - although their roots are, in my opinion, more historical than structural - but neither should we underestimate the learning capacity of the Soviet leadership, or its capacity to surprise.

If allowance is also made for the fact that political decisions in the Soviet Union today are increasingly the outcome of clashes of interest and compromise between different points of view then the Soviet future becomes a good deal less predictable and more open than Professor Zinoviev seems to allow.

No, Professor Zinoviev's principal achievement in *The Reality of Communism*, I suggest, lies elsewhere: to wit, in describing in convincing detail the myriad ways in which the Soviet population contributes to its own enslavement on account, largely, of the interpenetration of regime and society peculiar to modern dictatorships.

My complaint is that he refuses to allow for the possibility that government and society may interact productively as well. Yours sincerely,
J. I. GLEISNER,
Department of Politics,
The University of Leeds,
Leeds,
February 7.

Dust of battle

From Mr John Goodwin

Sir, I admired Roy Strong's elegantly argued piece about diaries (February 4). His preference for those that record the customs, dress, food and so on of an earlier age will not surprise anyone who knows him.

What is interesting is that Dr Strong, a renowned historian as well as much else, shows none the less little relish for the grimmer and equally valuable diaries that deal with the controversial events of our own time. He laments that *Peter Hall's Diaries*, which I edited, though they "fit the war-time era better before on the world of the subsidised arts", present battles and intrigues instead of "visions of aesthetic loveliness and delight" - thus destroying the theatre's magic.

But feuds and personality clashes are part of any considerable activity. They seldom detract from whatever glitter that activity may possess. Renaissance art revises despite the political machinations of the Borgias; indeed, they, too, fascinate. Nearer home, Dr Strong would probably be the first to welcome the memoirs of an actor at Shakespeare's Globe, especially if he had lifted the lid on the intrigues that must have existed then.

Another aspect of contemporary diaries which Dr Strong resists is the shortening space of time between the last entry and publication. But in that, to me, lies their moral edge. Diaries, if worth anything at all, tell the truth as the diarist sees it. This may cause pain to some people. But at least they can answer back. It is a strange courtesy that waits for a man's death before attacking him.

Time in custody

From the Chairman of Council of The Magistrates' Association

Sir, Under present law the police are obliged to bring a suspect before a court "as soon as practicable". The Magistrates' Association are firmly of the view that this imprecision should be remedied. We therefore support those sections of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill which require most suspects in custody to be charged and released within 24 hours.

The figures for those at present released before 24 hours indicate that less than 2 per cent of detainees, suspected of serious crimes of grave danger to the public, would need to be kept for longer.

The Bill, for the first time, introduces a judicial review of detention. The Magistrates' Association is strongly supportive of the provision that if the police need to detain a suspect beyond 36 hours without charge an inter-partes

application must be made to a magistrates' court. The suspect could be both present and represented at the hearing.

Amendments to the Bill have been tabled to bring forward the latest time at which application could be made to a court from 36 to 24 hours. This would, we believe, impose serious difficulties for the police and for the courts. The police have a job to do and must be given enough time to investigate whether the reasonable suspicion which is adequate for arrest can be translated into a prima-facie case.

This initial step in justice for the suspect would be difficult to complete in the shorter time which would, in addition, be interrupted to prepare for and attend the court. Moreover, the hearing might well involve the disclosure of the police case at such an early stage as to prejudice the conduct of an investigation.

Justices have expressed their willingness to sit in courts, specially

British Telecom licence control

From the Chairman of British Telecommunications

Sir, Kenneth Fleet's article (February 9), entitled "Lords pursue the details of BT's private affair," on the Bill to privatise British Telecom concludes with a warning that "repeals and modifications" now by the Government would hamper the biggest ever flotation of shares.

I welcome that warning, but I hope that Mr Fleet is totally wrong when he says that the Government may be forced to concede parliamentary control of BT's operating licence.

The issue here is not whether BT's licence should be capable of review and amendment, since that principle is already enshrined in the Bill (clauses 12, 13 and 15); but rather the best method of meeting this requirement in the context of a policy of competition and privatisation.

Those who seek to remove the Director General of Telecommunications' power to change the licence once granted are not strengthening his regulatory authority - they are weakening it by removing his ability to introduce new rules to prevent abuse or to amend licences in an impartial and flexible way, in the light of experience or following reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The inevitable consequence of parliamentary control over an operating licence would be to place a minister in the position of having to take responsibility for and explain to Parliament the activities of a major public limited company.

That would clearly be wholly inappropriate and the antithesis of one of the Government's cornerstones of privatisation policy, namely the freeing of a trading industry from the web of Government interference and control.

It is not clear what Mr Fleet means when he says "Lord Weinstock of GEC wants genuine rather than cosmetic competition". There are those who would argue that "cosmetic competition" is exactly what some of Britain's telecom-

munications manufacturers have enjoyed for too many years in their position as suppliers to BT.

It is understandable that they should be nervous about a change in the status of what has become virtually their sole customer for some sectors of their products. But this is quite different from the interests of competition and telecommunications users in the United Kingdom.

Those who have examined the Government's competition policy will perceive that they are in fact licensing competition in almost every aspect of British Telecom's operations. The licence, supervised by the Director General of Telecommunications, will prevent British Telecom from competing unfairly.

Already many of our customers are enjoying the benefits of improved service that the new disciplines have produced. It would be a pity if, at this stage, the debate became muddled by a strange alliance of those who oppose any form of change and those who want totally unbridled competition irrespective of social needs.

I welcome the stimulus that competition has already given to the UK telecommunications market. Covering in the corner and calling for protection never won a bout. We in BT are determined to go out and do our best to serve our customers in the competitive environment which a combination of Government policies, technological advances and market requirements is rapidly creating.

We have also shown our faith in British industry by the huge sums of money we are continually spending with it. We believe that the UK industry ought, in most cases, to be able to supply the internationally competitive products which our customers need and deserve.

So long as it produces the goods, our manufacturing industry has nothing to fear - and much to gain. Yours faithfully,
GEORGE JEFFERSON, Chairman
British Telecommunications,
2-12 Gresham Street, EC2,
February 14.

Countryside heritage

From Dr Martin Bell

Sir, Recent letters to *The Times* by Lord Melchett and others (February 6) and Mr Peter Addyman (February 9) have highlighted respectively the increasing destruction of the British countryside and its archaeological monuments. What they do not make clear is the urgent need for a more integrated approach to this problem.

Historically we have tended to conserve and legislate for wildlife and archaeology independently. Archaeologists have often pressed for the conservation of individual isolated sites. Now much more emphasis is being given to the conservation of derelict landscapes, such as settlements in association with their fields and funerary monuments.

Such landscapes are not just important archaeologically; they often contain animal or plant communities worthy of conservation in their own right, together with biological evidence (e.g., pollen) which can provide information on landscape history.

Similarly the hedgerows and ancient woodlands, the destruction of which Lord Melchett laments, are both havens for wildlife and an archaeological resource providing information on environmental history and former land-use.

If the Commission on Historic Buildings and Monuments, which begins work on April 1, is to

represent a progressive step it must develop close ties with bodies responsible for the study and conservation of the countryside and work with them to formulate an integrated approach to conservation of the heritage and its amenity presentation to the public.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BELL,
Archaeology Unit, Department of Geography,
Saint David's University College,
University of Wales,
Lampeter, Dyfed.

From Mr A. D. H. Leishman
Sir, While I wholeheartedly agree with Lord Melchett and others (February 6), why limit the banning of removal without specific consent to hedgerows? There is a need for a comprehensive strengthening of the Town and Country Planning Acts so that their provisions apply to natural and man-made rural topographical features in the same way as to buildings and urban open space.

If a city dweller cannot pull down a listed building or erect a 30-storey skyscraper on land he owns without planning permission, why should an agro-businessman be allowed to bring hedges and woods under the plough and eradicate important wildlife retreats like rural reserves and meadows without the same permission?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
A. D. H. LEISHMAN,
75 King Street,
Southwell,
Nottinghamshire,
February 7.

Off the track

From Mr J. L. Skade

Sir, It was unfortunate that Sir David Hunt (February 11), condemning the use of superfluous words, should describe it as pointless pleonasm.

Yours faithfully,
J. L. SKADE,
10, St Ann's Road,
Prestwich,
Manchester,
February 11.

Curbs on smoking

From the Director of Action on Smoking and Health

Sir, You recently enabled me to reply to a personal attack by Mr Bernard Levin. Now Mr Levin has done it again (feature, January 20), repeating his unfounded assertion that I, among others, am a fanatic; and adding, by inference, the disgraceful invention that I deal in "the language of hate".

I do not know what Mr Levin's problem is, and I am not sure I want to. I content myself that, since my last letter, a goodly number of cheques have arrived from readers who know full well that no one at ASH proposes "eliminating all smoking by law" and that the serious business of preventive medicine needs the support of all responsible people.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SIMPSON, Director,
Action on Smoking and Health,
5-11 Mortimer Street, W1.

Watch this space

From Mr R. M. Maxtone Graham

Sir, In its 1979 sale, *The Scotch House*, Knightsbridge, offered what it called "Discontinued Tartans". I am not sure whether that was another example of the ephemeral nature of the modern family and its insignia (like re-fillable wedding albums) in today's letter: February 11, or merely a further attempt at Highland Clearances.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MAXTONE GRAHAM,
6 Moat Side,
Sandwich, Kent,
February 11.

In the eyes of the West, Korean art has been completely overshadowed by that of China and Japan. **Treasures from Korea**, an exhibition which opens to the public today at the British Museum, provides a unique opportunity to assess the distinctive cultural achievement of the country known as the Land of the Morning Calm. Roderick Whitfield, Assistant Keeper in the Department of Oriental Antiquities at the British Museum, sets this achievement in the context of East Asian art as a whole.

The art of Korea

The exhibition of Korean art and archaeology at the British Museum is a rare chance to see Korean culture in perspective. For the West, Korean art has been less accessible than that of China and Japan, and even Koreans have much to learn about their ancient culture.

Korea's geographical position is the key to understanding the part played by the country in the development of common elements in the cultures of the Far East.

The peninsula was first settled from north-eastern Siberia, and both pottery and metalwork spread southwards from the north. Contacts with China followed a similar path: a Chinese commandery was founded in the north-west in 108BC.

When the powerful kingdom of Koguryo regained control of this area in the early 4th century AD, it was not long before both Buddhism and Confucian learning entered the country by this route.

However, the most fruitful of later contacts were by the sea route: the south-western kingdom of Paekche had close relations with the Liang dynasty in south China, with its capital at Nanking.

Paekche culture, with its emphasis on learning, and its early adoption of the teachings of Buddhism, shared the cultural refinements and passion for learning of the southern dynasties, and these qualities were transmitted not only southwards to Japan, but also to Silla when this kingdom overcame both Paekche and Koguryo in the middle of the seventh century.

Scholars from Paekche introduced Chinese writing to Japan in the sixth and early seventh centuries.

Korea's extensive foreign contacts are attested by some of the recent finds, in which vessels of blown or moulded glass from western Asia are not uncommon. Koreans frequently visited China, and during the Tang dynasty Korean monks travelled as far as India.

In the mid-ninth century, the diaries of the famous Japanese priest Ennin show that Koreans had colonies on the Chinese coast, provided interpreters and

controlled trade and shipping between Korea, China and Japan.

The prodigiously rich royal and aristocratic tombs that abound in the neighbourhood of Kyongju, the capital of Silla, represent links with Korea's northern origins. Silla pottery includes numerous shapes which it would be hard to match in China, and the rich panoply of gold crowns, winged head ornaments, spangled pendants and ceremonial belts with multiple pendants, are uniquely Korean.

Even after the Silla unification, when the Koreans followed Chinese burial custom in placing large stone figures on the approaches to tomb mounds, special Korean forms evolved which have no counterparts in Chinese practice, such as the figures of the Zodiac animals, facing the appropriate directions.



In Buddhist art too, the Korean contribution is a distinctive one. The grace and spiritual calm of bronze images from Paekche in the sixth and seventh centuries is unmatched save by figures that closely follow them in Japan. In the eighth century, when the international style spread from Chang'an to Kyongju and thence to Nara in Japan, the palaces and temples of Kyongju were adorned with splendid images and tiles as richly ornamented as any in China.

Nowhere else do we find such splendid carvings and reliefs in granite, a material whose very hardness encouraged the sculptor to express gentle features. The granite cave temple at Sokkuram, almost miraculously intact since its completion in the mid-eighth century, is one of the masterpieces of Buddhist art and quite without parallel.

Hugh shallow reliefs cut in the natural rock are numerous

and still attract worshippers today. The Buddhist temple bells of Silla are the largest and finest ever made in East Asia, some over three metres high.

While the growth of Buddhist wealth and power in China was abruptly cut short by the persecutions of 845, in Korea there was no check until centuries later when its decline and the collapse of the Koryo dynasty in 1392 was brought about by its own extravagance. In both the Unified Silla and Koryo dynasties, Buddhist monks enjoyed positions of privilege and power as national preceptors.

Under the Koryo dynasty (935-1392), Buddhist and royal patronage of the arts produced ever more spectacular creations. These included paintings, and lacquer boxes which were inlaid with mother of pearl in delicate designs, and made to hold sets of Buddhist sutra scrolls (including those of more than one enterprise, undertaken and completed, to print the entire Buddhist canon, which had grown to vast proportions).

Buddhist ritual implements, such as incense burners or water sprinklers, were made of bronze, inlaid in silver, and the inlay technique was pioneered in ceramics, in the bluish-green celadon wares which were famous and sought-after even in their own time. Finely detailed metalwork seems to have been a Korean speciality ever since the appearance of mirrors with incised geometric decoration, in the first millennium BC.

The last great dynasty, Choson (often called the Yi dynasty in Japan and the West, after the surname of the royal family), produced further manifestations of Korea's own distinctive culture.

The substitution of the Confucian philosophy in place of Buddhism as the official state doctrine was a great encouragement to learning, and many works were produced in the fifteenth century.

This was also the period when a completely new script, Hangul, devised on scientific principles specifically for the Korean language, was published and promulgated. Far easier



The gentle smiling face of Korean Buddhism. Gilt-bronze Bodhisattva from the Three Kingdoms period (early 7th century AD).

than the Chinese characters which had been used until then, it is in universal use today, combined with characters or on its own.

In the later Choson period, the eighteenth century saw a renaissance of cultural activity, manifested among other things in paintings of actual places, and in scenes of daily life. In the nineteenth century, through the closed door policy adopted by the powerful regent Tae-won-gun Yi Ha-ung, Korea took longer to come to terms with contacts with the West, and in consequence was vulnerable to Japan,

which annexed the country in 1910 and remained in power until the end of the Second World War.

The scars of this period are still felt in Korea. While Japanese scholars were diligent in the investigation of Korean archaeology and historic monuments, their presentation of them was, perhaps inevitably, from a Japanese point of view. In addition to the images and works of art which had been acquired over the centuries, either in the natural course of events or in the late sixteenth century invasions, many more



Gold, granite and porcelain. Crown from the Gold Bell Tomb, Kyongju (5th-6th century AD); the 11½ foot high Buddha at Sokkuram; Koryo wine pot (early 13th century).

A resting place for kings

One of the most important monuments in Korea is the Buddhist grotto Sokkuram, which is located near Kyongju, the capital of the Silla dynasty. Sokkuram is a masterpiece which represents the best traditions not only of Korea but also of the whole of East Asia.

Mt To-ham, which shields Kyongju from the Sea of Japan, was regarded as a sacred mountain by the Silla people. It is, therefore, no historical accident that two great Buddhist temples, Sokkuram and Pulguk-sa, were built there.

At the eastern foot of Mt To-ham is Tong-hae Ku, meaning the mouth of the Eastern Sea, into which a mountain stream from To-ham drains. Tong-hae Ku was another holy place to the Silla people because the mid-sea mausoleum of King Mun-mu, the great monarch who unified Korea, was established there. Thereafter the ashes of royal bodies were enshrined in Tong-hae Ku, which became a cemetery of the royal family.

When Silla's power reached its peak during the mid-eighth

century, the royal family sponsored the construction of the Sokkuram and Pulguk-sa temples. Sokkuram was built on the near summit of Mt To-ham, directly overlooking the royal mausoleum at Tong-hae Ku. It is recorded that while Pulguk-sa was built for the surviving relatives, Sokkuram was dedicated to deceased parents and for the repose of royal souls.

Unlike the rock temples in India or in China, where typical grottoes were natural rock caves, Sokkuram is an artificial grotto made with transported rocks. It is covered with earth and thus appears to be part of the mountain.

Sokkuram has a circular main hall and a square ante-room. Passageways reach to every corner of the hall, and the limited space is well utilized to provide adequate room for the sculpted figures as well as for visitors.

At the centre of the rotunda sits the majestic Buddha facing the east, overlooking Tong-hae Ku. In spite of earlier assertions that this statue is of Sakyamoni,

I believe it is of Amitabha Buddha, Lord of Western Paradise. The statue is of granite and is 3.5 metres high. It shows incomparable symmetry and conveys a sense of calm movement which gives varying impressions depending on the time of day and the viewer.

Sokkuram has a total of 37 figures on granite slabs all around the wall, in which the Buddhas are positioned in accordance with the functions and the Buddhist world orders. Aside from the Amitabha Buddha at the centre, there is a beautiful, eleven-headed Bodhisattva Avalokite's vara directly behind Amitabha Buddha.

The craftsmanship of rock temple building which originated in India, was developed in China, and then further refined in Korea. Sokkuram is evidence that rock temple art was in full bloom in eighth century Korea.

Hwang Su-young

President, Dongguk University, Seoul.

Treasures from Korea

British Museum

Feb 16-May 13

Opening hours: 10 am-5 pm Mon-Sat, 2.30-6 pm Sun

Entry: £1; 50p for those under 16, senior citizens, unemployed, students

Catalogue: £5.95

Korean embroidery

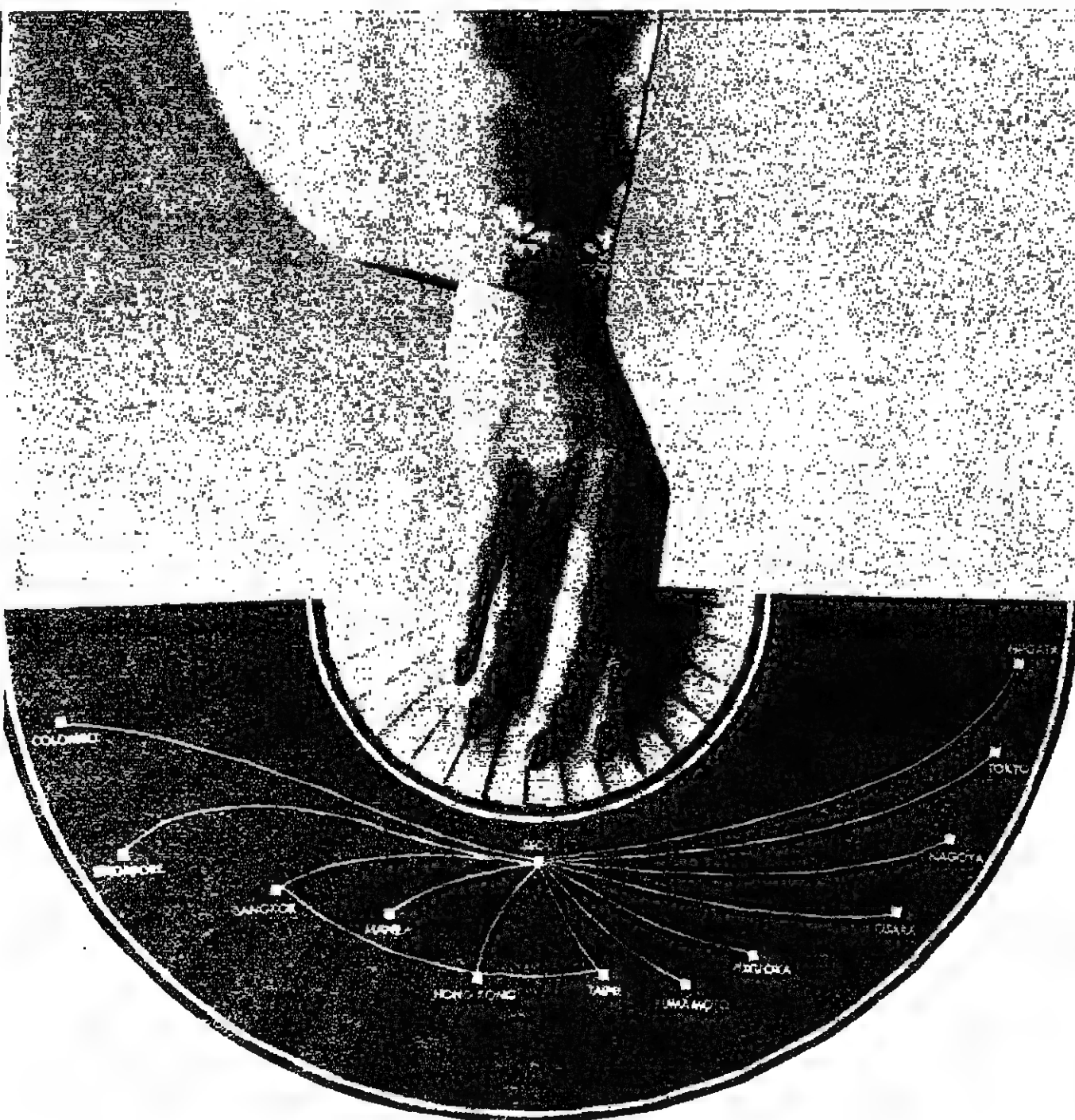
Victoria & Albert Museum

Feb 11-April 15

Opening hours: 10 am-5.50 pm Mon-Thurs, closed Friday, 10 am-5.50 pm Sat, 2.30-5.50 pm Sun

Entry: free

Catalogue: £1.95



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Private gold from the unknown queen

In October 1974, when the excavation team reached the bottom of the burial chamber of the north mound of Tomb 98 in Kyongju, they found a complete set of gold personal ornaments that had once adorned a deceased queen laid in a wooden coffin. All the physical parts of the anonymous queen, who had lived in the fifth century AD, were completely gone, but her gold ornaments, weighing about 814 lbs in all, remained intact.

They consisted of a crown, a pair of ear pendants, a necklace made of about 6,000 gold, jade and glass beads, 19 finger rings, five pairs of bracelets, and a girdle with 13 long pendants. Her shoes were, however, made of gilt bronze.

She had another four sets each of necklaces and silver girdles in addition to a total of 6,000 blue glass beads, 12,000 beads of various materials and 148 comma-shaped jades, all put into wooden chest placed near her head.

Egyptian pharaohs are famous for their lavish use of gold, but kings of the Old Silla dynasty do not fall behind in their fervor for the precious metal.

As the queen's burial shows, the official and ceremonial attire of Silla royalty sparkled with gold to such an extent that contemporary Japanese of the Kofun period use the words *meno megayaka* (eye glistening) in verses as an adjective prefix to the word "Silla".

Gold was known to ancient Koreans of the proto-Three Kingdoms period (c. 300-300 AD) through a colony called Lelang (108 BC-AD 313) set up by Han China in north-west Korea. But it was from the fourth century that south Koreans, particularly those in the Silla region in south-east Korea, started working on gold by themselves. It is very likely that some goldsmiths migrated to the south from north-west Korea after the fall of the Lelang colony in 313 AD, and set up workshops in the Kyongju area.

Silla at that time was rapidly rising as a kingdom in a substantial sense, helped by a strong army, active iron smelting and presence of rich gold mines. Silla kings of the "proto" period were elected from Pak and Sok clans, but from the mid-fourth century on, the throne was monopolized by the Kim clan. "Kim" literally means "gold", and the simultaneous emergence of gold technology in

Silla and that of the Kim clan as the new royal family may not have been just a coincidence.

Personal ornaments of gold, silver and gilt-bronze have been discovered in tombs of all the three kingdoms, i.e. Koguryo, Paekche and Old Silla, but those from Old Silla tombs stand out for their unstinting



Korean dynasties

Three Kingdoms:
Old Silla 57BC-660AD
Koguryo 37BC-668AD
Paekche 18BC-660AD
Unified Silla 668-935
Koryo 935-1392
Yi (Chosun) 1392-1910

Japanese rule 1910-1945
Korean War (1950-53)
sealed division of the peninsula into Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and Republic of Korea (South Korea).

use of gold and uniqueness in artistic motif and style. Of the gold ornaments of Silla, the crown, ear pendants and girdle may best demonstrate the characteristics of Silla goldwork.

A Silla gold crown consists of an outer circlet with three uprights and an inner cap with a bifurcated horn-like frontal ornament, all made of cut-sheet gold. The outer circlet has three frontal uprights of a highly conventionalized tree-shape, which are flanked by two antler-shaped uprights. They are decorated with numerous gold spangles and jade pendants attached to them by means of twisted wire.

The triangular inner cap with pointed tip is filled with tiny geometric openings for ventilation. It appears, however, that the outer crown and the inner cap were not worn as a set because, when buried, the deceased wears only the outer crown, leaving the inner cap outside the coffin.

Diadems featuring antler and tree-shaped ornaments seem to have been widely used in the Eurasian steppe, as is attested by a gold diadem from a

Sarmatian kurgan in Novocherkassk on the north-eastern shore of the Black Sea. Shaman headgears with antler ornaments were seen among the nineteenth century inhabitants of eastern Siberia. The Silla crown is undoubtedly connected to such Siberian tradition, but the highly conventionalized form, with outspoken spiritual quality and archaic beauty, is definitely a Silla invention.

The comma-shaped jade, attached to the crown, are made of jadeite whose original mine is now lost in Korea. The jade pendants were also valued as the central piece of a necklace or a final pendant of an earring. Exactly identical jade pendants called *magatama* in Japanese were also popular in Kofun-period Japan.

The jade pendants of Korea and Japan are of independent origins that go back to the prehistoric period, but exchange of artistic ideas between the two countries at the time for the particular object of art seems to have produced a common form as we see today.

A ear pendant consists of a thick, hollow main ring, a medial piece and a heart-shaped finial suspended from it. The three-parts structure is basically similar to the Han Chinese glass ear pendant called *er-dang*, but a Silla ear pendant is again uniquely Silla or Korean in its material, shape and total effect as an art piece.

A gold girdle made of several tens of square plaques with designs in open-work is another unique Silla achievement, developed from a simpler prototype used by the ancient nomadic peoples of the Siberian steppe. A tool-kit for nomadic daily life comprising knife, whet-stone, needle and medicine cases, drinking cup, charm, and so on, originally suspended from the belt, was reduced into simplified, symbolic replicas in gold.

Silla royalty naively displayed its wealth and dignity through glistening gold ornaments with symbolic forms. The royalty and their kingdom have long since gone, but they have left behind artefacts which, devoid of the cold perfectionism of Chinese art or the Japanese emphasis on visual decorative-ness, are uniquely Korean in taste and style.

Kim Won-yong

Professor of Archaeology,
Seoul National University



Koryo celadon jar with inlaid decoration (mid-12th century)

Ceramics from the first century

Korea was one of the first countries to produce porcelain. As early as the Three Kingdoms period (1st century BC - 7th century AD) stoneware was baked at 1,200C by reduced firing. By the Unified Silla period (7th-10th century AD) ash-glazed stoneware was produced, indicating that the stage immediately before celadon had been reached.

Influenced by the Yueh-chou kiln of China, the unified Silla turned out a great quantity of celadons, including dishes with doughnut-shaped feet, in the second half of the ninth century. Slightly ahead of, or almost simultaneously with, this development, Silla had succeeded in making so-called coarse or proto-celadons through interaction of ash-glazed Silla stoneware and Chinese celadons from kilns other than the Yueh-chou kiln. They had discontinued making this type of porcelain by the 11th century.

There had been frequent exchanges with such Chinese kilns as Yao-chou, Lin-fu, Fu, Tzu-chou and Ting. During the Koryo dynasty (935-1392), celadons were developed reflecting natural surroundings, climate and culture, and in the first half of the 12th century they reached their highest degree of refinement. In the middle of the century the

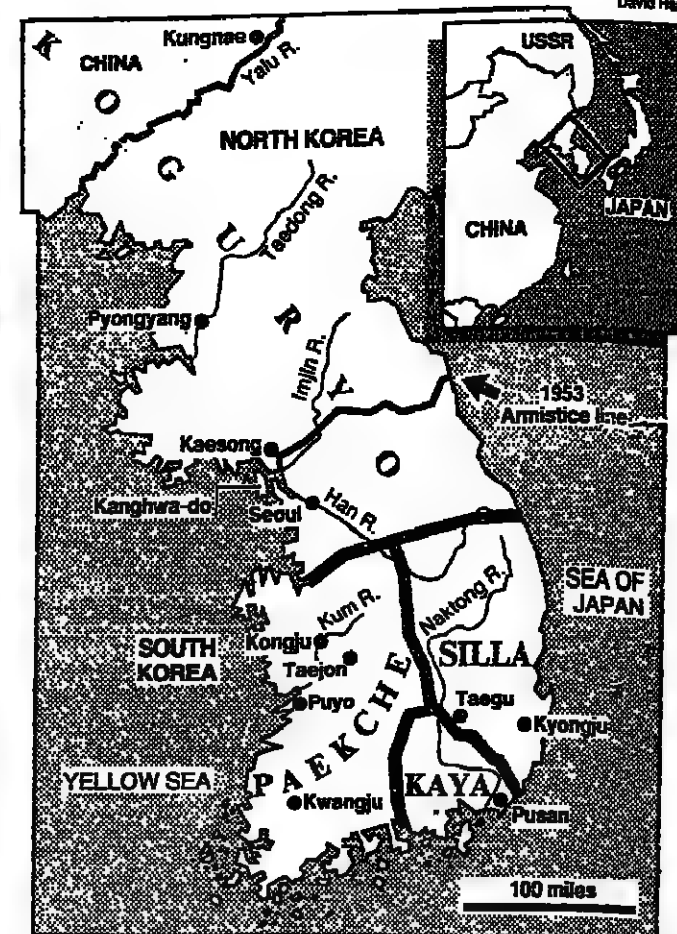
Ancient Korean toby jug? Koryo celadon wine pot with underglaze iron (12th century AD).



technique of inlaying designs was perfected.

Although Koryo suffered from political and social instability in the 12th and early 13th centuries, its culture made great

strides. A wide variety of ceramics was produced including white porcelains, black-glazed, iron-glazed or marble-design wares as well as celadons. As Koryo was subjected



to decades of Mongol invasion in the 13th century, the quality, shape and decoration of its celadons suffered.

With the temporary recovery of stability in the second half of the 13th century during the reign of King Chung-yol, there was a small improvement in the quality of Koryo celadons. They enjoyed a brief period of revival when Koryo came into contact with Western culture through Yuan China. After King Chung-yol, Koryo celadons deteriorated and never regained their former glory.

The development of ceramics from earthenware to ash-glazed pottery, from ash-glazed pottery to celadons, and from celadons to white porcelain was natural and logical. Rather than making ceramics with a wide variety of shape and design, as the Chinese did, Korean potters concentrated on celadons, giving them unique colour and designs.

Koryo produced its best celadons during the reign of King Injong (the first half of the 12th century AD), a period when China was producing celadons of the highest refinement at the official kiln at Fu. Hsu Ching, a famous Chinese scholar who visited Koryo as a member of a Song Chinese diplomatic mission, wrote in his travelogue, *Hsuan-ho Feng Kao-i T'ue-ching*, that the colour of the Koryo celadons was uniquely beautiful and that the

Koreans loved it and called it *pisaeuk*.

The opaque glazing of Chinese celadons may be compared to a deep and murky pond and the "transparency" of Korean *pisaeuk* to a brook of clear water on whose bed pebbles and sand can be seen. Chinese celadons are often imposing, dignified, and exaggerated, while Koryo celadons are seldom so. On Koryo celadons parts combine to produce a whole of flowing lines and an overall balance and harmony.

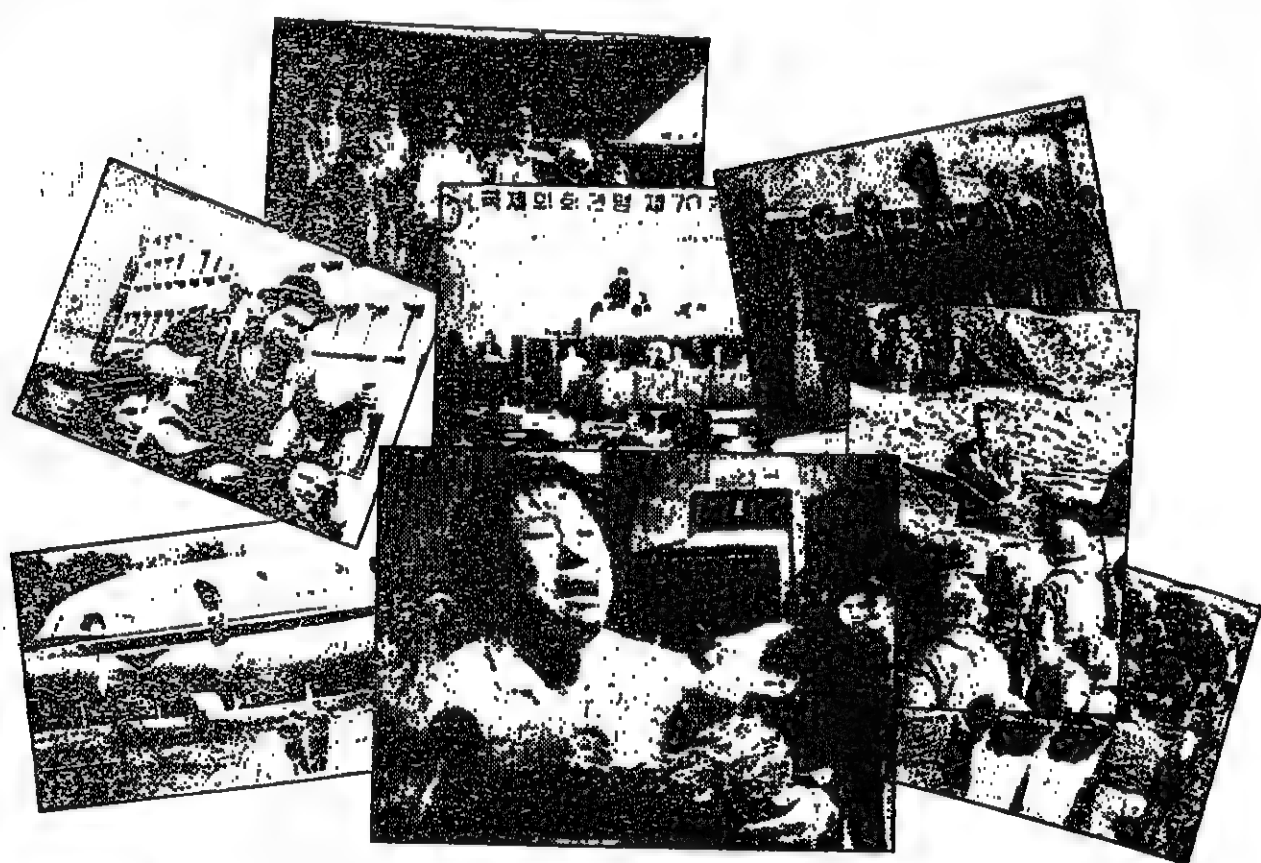
Few incised or relief designs were made on Chinese celadons because of the opaque and thick glaze. On the other hand, incised, relief, inlaid and open-work designs can be found in Koryo celadons. While Chinese celadons are covered all over with stylized patterns, Korean celadons are only partially decorated with pictorial designs which are subdued in colour, simple and restrained.

Koryo potters succeeded in decorating celadons with oxidized copper in the first half of the 12th century, the first in the world to do so. However, they were sparing in their application of this pigment, using it to mark pistils or the top of sacred cranes. The reddish dots linger in the memory.

Chong Yang-mo

Chief Curator,
National Museum, Seoul

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THE ART OF KOREA

The inspiration of Buddha in these gentle bronzes

The introduction of Buddhism to Korea in the late fourth century was a great stimulus to religion and art. Temples and pagodas were built and decorative images made following models introduced by foreign missionaries, and local variations soon developed. Very few statues of this period have survived, however.

Most of the extant Korean Buddhist images date from the sixth century onward, those in gilt bronze having lasted longer than those in wood, clay or even stone. The earliest datable piece is a gilt bronze Buddha figure of the Koguryo Kingdom which has an inscribed date corresponding most probably to 539 AD.

The statue wears a thick garment with flared folds on either side and stands on a round base supported by inverted lotus petals. Its aureole is incised with flame patterns and it carries an inscription about its origins on its back. The Buddha statue raises its right hand in the symbolic gesture of "fear not" while the left hand is lowered, meaning "charity".

It is easy to see that the hand gestures and the formal appearance of this early Korean image are not very different from Chinese images of slightly earlier date. But the gently smiling face, with a touch of human warmth, is found in other Korean images. Also the somewhat crude technical finish of the flame pattern, the thick folds of the garment and the uneven shapes of the thick lotus

petals are not common in Chinese images.

Gradually, interest in the simpler forms of the rounded body of the Buddha increased, and his garment was worn naturally, following the contours of the statue with a reduced number of folds. This feature was common in late sixth and early seventh-century Korean images and is best exemplified by a standing statue from Yangpyong.



As a deity, Bodhisattva stands next in status to the Buddha. He is waiting to become a Buddha in the future, and in the meantime assists the suffering beings. He wears a shawl, a skirt, a crown, a necklace and rich ornamentation over the body - in contrast to the simple garment of the Buddha. A gilt bronze Bodhisattva statue from Samyang-dong in the British Museum exhibition is a fine piece from the Three Kingdoms period in the style of the early seventh century.

The treatment of the Bodhisattva's attire and its iconographic details are similar to Chinese and Japanese statues. But a certain casualness in the

execution, child-like innocence in the facial expression and unpretentious posture are some of the characteristics of Korean statues.

Included also in the exhibition is a large gilt bronze Bodhisattva statue seated in a meditative pose which is often identified as the future Buddha Maitreya - like the Messiah in the West - a deity which was especially popular as Koreans struggled to achieve political unity in the seventh century.

This beautiful statue demonstrates the ability to express profound Buddhist teachings in an image. It forms a pair with another well-known meditating Bodhisattva statue, now in the National Museum in Seoul, as the representative masterpieces of gilt bronze images in the Three Kingdoms period. Buddhist teaching had deeply permeated the thought and everyday lives of the Korean people. They introduced Buddhism, as well as the technical and artistic skills, into Japan in the middle of the sixth century and greatly influenced the early development of Japanese Buddhism.

Korea's role in the development of East Asian Buddhist culture was even more marked during the Unified Silla dynasty (668-935 AD). Frequent exchanges with Chinese Buddhist communities, as well as pilgrimages by several Silla monks to India in the seventh and eighth centuries, enriched the Buddhist scholarship and the artistic achievement of the Silla people.

A gilt bronze plaque of a Buddha triad which was recently discovered in a pond in Kyongju, the ancient capital of Silla, reflects the international sculptural style around 700 AD. The full round face, the voluminous body with naturally flowing garment folds, and the slightly bent stance of the attending Bodhisattva figures, are reminiscent of Tang sculptures of the period. Yet the refined workmanship in the modelling of the statues and the intricate floral designs in the openwork halo and the lotus pedestal, are skills perfected by the Silla people.

The eighth century saw the culmination of Buddhist art and culture in the Asian world. According to historical records, many larger than life-size gilt bronze images and bells were cast for the state-patronized temples. However, very few remain today to remind us of the grandeur of Buddhist art in the period.

Artistic activity inspired by Buddhism declined in the late Unified Silla dynasty when Tang China was no longer the centre of international Buddhist culture. Silla turned gradually towards a new phase of Buddhist doctrine, Chan (Zen) Buddhism, which put more emphasis on meditation than on Buddhist imagery. Furthermore, iron and stone replaced gilt bronze as the popular medium for large size statues.

Lena Kim Lee
Associate Professor,
Hongik University, Seoul.

Putting the people on paper



Wrestling match. A genre painting, ink on paper, by Kim Hong-do (1745-after 1814).

The Chosun (Yi) dynasty (1392-1910) saw remarkable development in painting in Korea. Scholar-painters and prominent members of the Academy of Painting reached a high degree of achievement in traditional Korean styles, while the activities of priest-painters waned under government policy of neglecting Buddhism in favour of Confucianism.

Paintings became diverse and distinctly Korean in terms of composition, brushwork, and treatment of space. While absorbing styles of Chinese painting of different periods, Korean painters were able to evolve their own styles, which in turn played an important part in the development of the Japanese ink painting of the Muromachi period.

Because different styles were developed and fashions changed during the long period of the Chosun dynasty, the paintings may be divided into four smaller periods: early (1392-1500), middle (1500-1700), late (1700-1850), and the final years (1850-1910).

The most important part of the early Chosun period was the fifteenth century, when such great masters as An Gyeon, Kang Hui-an, Yi Sang-jwa, and others were active. They had a profound influence on later painters.

Koreans find their own style

An Kyon may be taken as a representative painter of the period. He studied many excellent Chinese paintings in the collection of his patron, Prince Anpyong, and evolved his own personal idiom.

His style is characterized by the additive arrangement of echoing shapes and forms, a pervasive spaciousness, the use of diagonal movement, and unique brushwork, as exemplified in his famous work, "A Dream Journey to the Peach Blossom Land".

In the middle period uniquely Korean styles were evolved in paintings of animals, birds and flowers, bamboos, plums, and grapes. Paintings of these subjects are characterized by a peaceful atmosphere, unbounded space, accurate depiction, and a lofty spirit. What they represented was in stark contrast to the social disorder and political turmoil of the period, and can be seen as evidence of Korean perseverance.

With the advent of a movement for "Practical Learning", which encouraged progressive ideas of independence

and self-recognition, Korean painters of the late Chosun period developed "real landscape" and genre painting, taking their subject matter directly from nature and everyday life.

The landscapes of Chong Son and his followers reveal a distinctly new style indigenous to Korea not only in choice of subject but also in compact composition, free brushwork, overlaying use of ink, and light colouring effects.

Genre painting also proved to be remarkably Korean in character. Kim Hong-do and his follower, Kim Duk-sin, painted many humorous scenes from the actual life of common people in typical Korean dress, straw-thatched houses, farm scenes, and blacksmiths.

Sin Yun-bok painted with affection romantic love scenes involving men and women of his time. His subjects were usually shown enjoying themselves. Rendered with a lively, refined brush and fresh colours, his paintings differ in theme, composition, brushwork and colouring from those of the other artists. All three, however,

shared a common interest in depicting everyday scenes. Their works are lively and full of wit.

The Chinese Southern School style, already introduced in the preceding period, attained great favour during the late Chosun period. Another important development was the introduction of Western techniques of shading and perspective from China.

During the final period of the Chosun dynasty the types of landscape and genre painting done in the late period declined rapidly, giving way to the Chinese Southern School style followed by Kim Chong-hui and followers.

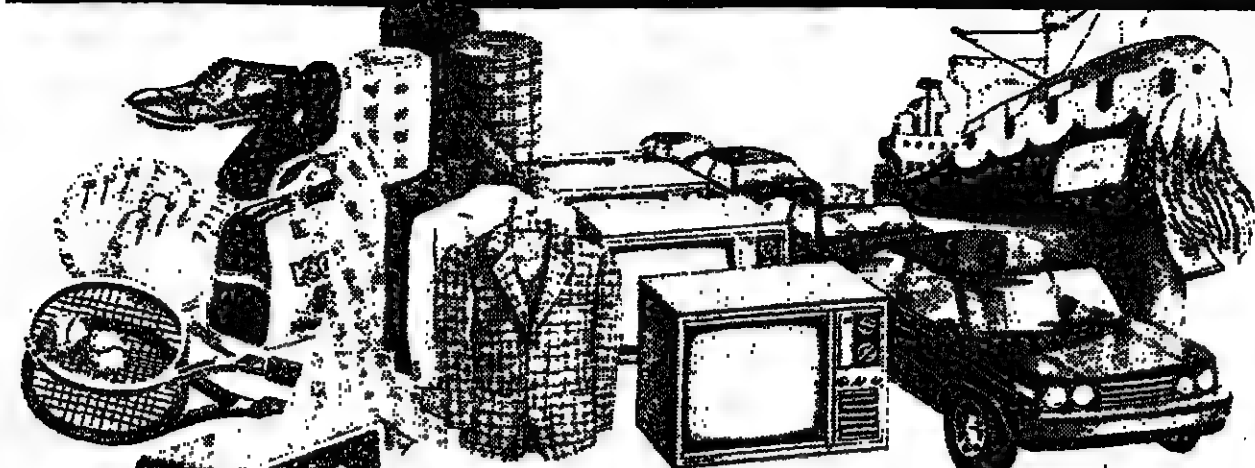
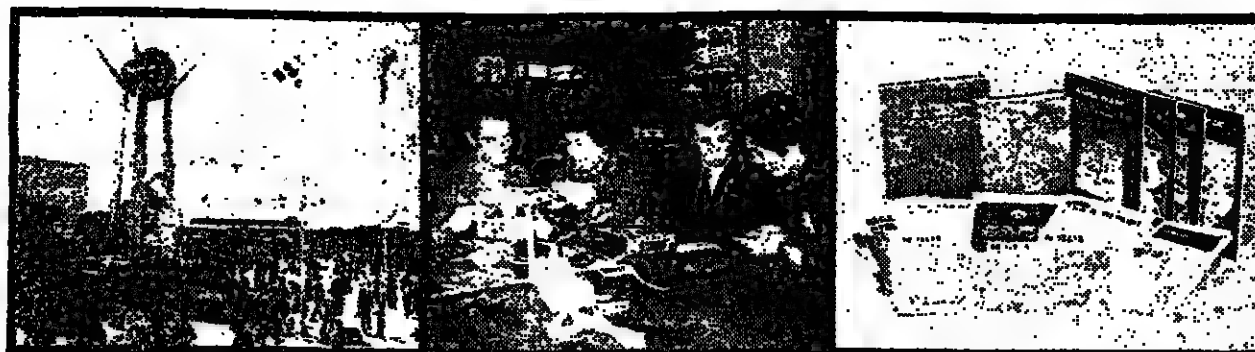
This period also saw the creation of fresh, new styles by such individualistic artists as Kim Su-chol and Hong Se-sop. Simplified forms, water colour effects, and bold brushwork of wet ink washes are particularly remarkable in their works.

The final period culminated in the work of Chang Sung-up, the nineteenth century master who excelled in a wide range of subjects and in powerful brushwork and who exercised a profound influence over modern painters.

Ahn Hwi-joon
Associate Professor of
Art History,
Seoul National University.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

First cracks in the almighty dollar

The rout of the dollar on the New York foreign exchange markets late on Valentine's Day, which continued yesterday afternoon in Europe, has fuelled the view that the great dollar sell-off is finally under way.

Predictions of a substantial fall in the dollar have been wrong before, and again and again the most respected forecasters have had to swallow their words over the past year in the face of another bout of dollar strength. Between last August and October, for instance, the dollar fell steadily from a peak of more than DM2.73 against the Deutschmark to just below DM2.57 only to rise later in the year.

But this time it has fallen faster. From a peak of DM2.84 last month, the dollar is down to DM2.6727 - a sizeable part of that loss occurring in only a couple of days. The mood is very different from last autumn.

American economic statistics which in days gone by would have been taken to signal the possibility of rising US interest rates are no longer lending support. The incessant warnings over the US budget and trade deficits and the implications these will have for the dollar have taken their toll on confidence. There have also been signs of foreign investors pulling their money out of Wall Street, taking profits both on the market and on the American currency.

So a crack has appeared in international confidence in the dollar. Hot money is coming out of the United States; dealers are talking of the familiar bandwagon effect which tends to follow such talk.

It would be no surprise if the dollar stages something of a recovery after the savage sell-off which has clipped 6.5 pence off its value in only two days. Corrections in currency markets, by their nature, do not occur in straight lines. Rather the pattern is likely to be of periods of selling followed by calm and partial recovery before the next bout of selling.

However the shift in sentiment about the dollar since the turn of the year has been so profound that its underlying pressure is now downwards.

The main beneficiary so far has been the Deutschmark. This has brought familiar problems for the weaker currencies in the European Monetary System, such as the Belgian franc. Sterling, meanwhile, has been in halfway house. It was almost 2 cent up at \$1.4425 against the dollar yesterday although it gave up ground against European currencies.

Harsh words on public spending

Some of the gloss on the public spending White Paper has been to be published today scraped off by rough words from the Treasury Select Committee of MPs, which yesterday produced its belated report on the Chancellor's autumn statement.

Far from holding down the real level of spending, Government's proclaimed objective, the MPs say that it has increased spending by 6 per cent between 1980-81 and 1984-85.

The committee says sternly: "On this basis, planned public expenditure for 1984-85 would represent 43 per cent of gdp - only 1 per cent beneath the peak level reached in the course of the 1981-82 financial year, or in other words only half of the reduction the published figures suggest."

The committee also has harsh things to say more generally about the treatment of asset sales as negative public spending.

The Chancellor does not show any inclination to take the committee's advice. Asset sales of £6 billion over the next three years will be shown as negative spending in today's White Paper. But some concession to these misgivings, which are echoed in the City, may be granted in the Budget, where the Chancellor may respond by lowering his target for the public sector borrowing requirement.

First report from the Treasury and Civil Service Committee. The Government's economic policy: autumn statement. House of Commons paper 170 of session 1983-84. HMSO, £6.

Cheap way to boost investment

This year's Budget proposals from the wider Share Ownership Council, while not unfamiliar to those who follow the lobbies year by year, take on a particular interest in the year of Mr Nigel Lawson's first Budget.

Human nature alone dictates that the Chancellor will want to make something of a reforming splash. Macroeconomic constraints combined with the Government's continuing allegiance to the medium-term financial strategy almost rule out exciting tax cuts or tax/welfare reforms. Ideas to promote mass share ownership, or at least to remove the bias against personal non-institutional investment, look an attractive alternative sidishow.

Like others, most notably the Stock Exchange, the wider Share Ownership Council urges a cut in stamp duty on share transactions from 2 per cent to perhaps 0.5 per cent. It also wants a further easing of the investment income surcharge, by raising the threshold and halving the rate. And it approves the return of tax reliefs for executive share option schemes.

These are certainly all runners. But they are marginal.

Those who really want to reverse the tide of individual share ownership urge a British version of the French *Loi Monory*, enabling individuals who invest more in British equities to claim tax relief, as enjoyed by pension contributions. The council suggests that, for fairness, saving into personal equity holdings should be tax-deductible up to the same limit as bonuses under the employee share ownership scheme introduced in 1978 and now running at £5,000.

Sadly, there is not the slightest indication that the Treasury is planning any such thing.

That leaves one intriguing and dramatic possibility. Many lobby groups have pointed out that the mechanism introduced to index capital gains for tax purposes is so complex that it has deterred investment. There are plenty of proposals for reform. But why not axe long-term capital gains tax altogether and instead reintroduce taxation of speculative short-term gains as income? That would encourage investment, cost little in revenue and satisfy equity by catching the speculator who makes an income out of capital gains.

Alexanders Discount confirms talks with unnamed bidder

By Philip Robinson

Alexanders Discount, the smallest of the top three discount houses, yesterday announced it may be the next target in the wave of financial takeovers in the City.

Shares in Alexanders jumped 48p to close at a peak of 447p, valuing them in the stock market at £22.1m.

Mr Daniel Meinertzhagen, Alexanders chairman and also chairman of Royal Insurance and a director of Brixton Estates and Tozer Kemsley & Milbourn, was unavailable for comment yesterday.

However, Mr Douglas Grant, Alexanders managing director, said: "We would not have said anything had the share price not started moving up before lunch today. I cannot say how long we have been talking but we are a reasonable way down the road and hope to produce something fairly quickly. There are a few things still to be tidied up, I'm not giving any clues as to who it might be."

The group said that it has received an approach which may lead to an offer for the whole of the company. The statement said a further announcement will be made as soon as practicable.

The favourite to bid last night was Mercury Securities, owners of S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank. Through various stakes it has links with the stockbroker Rowe & Pitman and the stockjobber Akroyd & Smithers. Warburg was not available for comment.

The stock market was also tipping Mercantile House Holdings, the financial services group, which last month was seen as a bidder for the much larger discount house of Gerard & National when it announced talks were in progress with an unnamed bidder.

Gerard's talks were subsequently called off.

A spokesman for Mercantile said last night that the company would not comment on any speculation.

Speculative interest in discount house shares has been mounting this year in the expectation that outside banking or financial interests might take a predatory interest.

However, some analysts feel that the Bank of England, which would need to approve any takeover, does not want to see discount houses owned by banks.

The Bank underlined only late last year that it would like to see more mergers between the smaller discount houses. At one stage it was rumoured that Alexanders might merge with Jessel, Toyne & Gillett and Smith St Aubyn (Holdings).

At last night's share prices the three would have a combined market capitalization of £52m against the £100m of Gerard & National.

The main attraction of a discount house is its intelligence on money markets, daily contact with the Bank of England and the individual skills as a market-maker.

Some have speculated that, given the changes allowed by the reforms of the Stock Exchange, it would not be difficult for discount houses to become market-makers in the short end of the gilt market, a function now carried out by the stockjobbers.

The Bank of England is unlikely to object to the principle of a discount house being owned by an outsider, given certain undertakings that the integrity and character of the house would be preserved.

Pound up 1.9 cents

Another easier day for the dollar closed yesterday with sterling up 1.90 cents at 1.4425 but again significantly weaker to the Deutschmark and sharply lower to French francs. The trade weighted index finished unchanged at 81.8, losing a nich gained at the opening.

After moving below DM2.7 from the opening, the dollar lost further ground against the Deutschmark and finished with almost a 5 pence fall at 2.6725. It slid over 20 centimes against the French franc at 8.2250 and more than 2 centimes on the Swiss franc at 2.2005.

STOCK EXCHANGES

SE 100 index 103.3 up 6.0 (day's high 103.8, low 103.1)
FT index 816.6 up 4.5
FT 100 index 82.77 up 0.05
Bargains 24,000
Discounted USM Leaders
Index 10.519 up 0.58
New York: Dow Jones
Average (latest) 1166.56 up 2.7
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9,892.16 up 61.69
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index 1090.65 up 2.31

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.4425 up 1.90 cents
Index 81.8 unchanged
DM 3.8675 down 0.0350
FF 11.8550 down 0.1400
Yen 336.75 up 3.0
Dollar Index 128.9 down 0.2
DM 2.6727
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4460
Dollar DM 2.6715

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week
fixed 9½-9½
3 month interbank 9½-9½
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-9½
3 month DM 9½-10
3 month Fr 15½-13½
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$382.50 pm \$383.00
close \$384.50-\$386.50 (\$268.50-\$267)
New York (latest): \$383.50
(\$396-\$397.50 (\$274-\$275.50)
Sovereigns (net):
\$90.50-\$91.50 (\$267.50-\$268.50)
*Excludes VAT

Fall in pay deals may be over, CBI says

By Frances Williams
Economics Correspondent

The first tentative sign that economic recovery may have halted the downward trend of pay deals over the past three years came yesterday when the Confederation of British Industry revealed a slight rise in settlements in manufacturing in the final quarter of the year.

Settlements averaged 5.8 per cent compared with 5.6 per cent in each of the three previous quarters, although they remain below the 6.1 per cent recorded a year earlier. Two in three pay deals were lower than previously, the CBI said.

But separate figures from the employment department show that earnings growth, boosted by output bonuses and higher overtime, scarcely slowed last year. In December earnings rose by an underling 7.75 per cent for the fifth successive month compared with 8 per cent a year earlier. In manufacturing earnings were 9.75 per cent higher than in December 1982.

The Government's hopes for lower inflation are not immediately threatened, however. Thanks to rapid gains in productivity, unit labour costs in manufacturing are now rising more slowly than at any time since the late 1960s, up by only 2.8 per cent last year from 1982.

Although the latest pay and earnings figures cover relatively few settlements - only 8 per cent of workers settle between the start of the pay round in August and December - they remain uncomfortably high for a government intent on bringing about eventual price stability.

The recent surge in productivity growth, which has tempered the impact on labour costs, is expected to fade this year and other countries in the early stages of recovery are doing even better.

The latest international comparisons show unit wage costs in manufacturing falling by 2 per cent in the United States and West Germany and standing still in Japan.

Ministers are expected to stress with renewed vigour that lower inflation requires lower pay deals. People in work have enjoyed a substantial increase in their living standards as earnings have outstripped inflation, now just above 5 per cent.

The 7.75 per cent increase in earnings contrasts with the 4.4 per cent the Government's tax and price index says is necessary to maintain the real value of take home pay.

The CBI said yesterday that there had been relatively few concessions on working time so far in the present pay round, with only 5 per cent of settlements including a shorter working week and 13 per cent increased holidays. But the employers' organisation gave a warning that even this small number may not be consistent with improved competitiveness and more jobs.

Trends compared, page 20

Deep-water oil hunt in 'frontier' areas

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britain is to open two new "frontier" areas for offshore oil exploration as well as allowing drilling in the English Channel, off Hampshire and West Sussex.

The "frontier" areas are in deep water in the Faores and the Rockall Troughs. Drilling is also to be allowed in deep water off the west of Shetland.

The offshore blocks will be awarded in the ninth round of offshore licensing, which will be launched in the spring of next year. Details of the areas were announced yesterday by the Department of Energy.

The oil companies will be encouraged to move into the deep water areas west of Scotland by the prospect of exploration blocks in the present oil-producing areas of the North Sea being available.

Companies bidding for licences in the new areas will be given preference in the allocation of blocks in the mature area of the North Sea.

The department is also to auction 15 blocks in the North Sea to the highest bidders during the ninth round, the object is to ensure an early cash return from the licensing round.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Minister for Energy, said yesterday: "The round will provide the opportunity for companies to explore thoroughly the frontier areas of the UK Continental Shelf. At the same time, we will enable companies to undertake new exploration and development work in established oil and gas areas. I am confident that the round will help create and preserve jobs."



Alick Buchanan-Smith: Incentives for exploration.

Enterprise Oil, the Government's next privatization candidate, has recruited two new directors, to complete its executive board ahead of its flotation, scheduled for this summer. Mr Peter Kingston, aged 41, has been appointed technical director, and Mr John Walsley, a 37-year-old accountant and oil taxation expert, has become financial director.

Institution rejects Hanson bid

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick's largest institutional shareholder, Norwich Union, is to back the company's fiercely independent stance in the face of an unwanted £247m takeover bid from Hanson Trust.

Norwich Union, which controls about 4.5 per cent of the shares said yesterday that it believed the management had done enough to thwart the takeover bid and it would not be accepting the new terms.

Mr Paul Lovett, an investment manager, said: "Because this is a contested bid the decision will ultimately have to be taken by the main board, but I will be recommending against acceptance."

The decision by Norwich Union will come as a blow to Hanson Trust, which has raised the terms of its offer twice during the eight-week takeover battle, in a determined effort to win the company.

Most of the other large institutional shareholders of London Brick were still undecided on the new terms, reinforcing the impression that the result is going to be finely balanced.

Hanson Trust was back in the stock market yesterday, adding to its existing 12.5 per cent stake. It is believed to have bought another 2 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MAM 'will pay singer under £3m'

The damages which Management Agency and Music will have to pay Mr Gilbert O'Sullivan, the singer and songwriter, will be substantially less than £3m as a result of an Appeal Court judgement on Tuesday, the company said yesterday.

In an original judgement against MAM two years ago, Mr O'Sullivan won an award which would have totalled about £7m for all the money to company had retained over the years from his recording and music publishing activities. But the effect of the Appeal Court judgement will be to reduce this considerably to take account of management fees and "reasonable remuneration."

Blue chip prices weakened on Wall Street yesterday but secondary stocks remained fairly strong as the market continued its rally. The Dow Jones industrial average was up fractionally at about 1164, after being 1169.

Gulf Oil has failed in its attempt to prevent Mesa Petroleum, which is seeking control of Gulf, from raising funds or proceeding with a tender offer for Gulf shares. The District Court at Delaware denied Gulf's request for a restraining order against Mesa. In its turn, Mesa, a Texas company whose chairman is Mr T. Boone Pickens, filed a counterclaim alleging that Gulf had failed to make disclosures under federal securities laws, and had wasted corporate assets.

The Bank of Italy will cut the Italian bank rate by one point to 16 per cent from today, but in a converse move the Belgian discount and Lombard rates will each rise by one point to 11 and 12 per cent.

SE to allow negotiated rates on foreign deals

The Stock Exchange will allow its members to switch to negotiated commission rates on dealings in foreign securities from April 9, as a widely expected first step in its pledge to phase out fixed broking commissions.

The move to negotiated commissions on foreign dealings - presaged at the time of the agreement with Mr Cecil Parkinson, former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry last autumn, will apply to brokers and stockjobbers who have set up international dealing subsidiaries.

The Exchange has until 1986 to abolish fixed commissions altogether. But it now looks certain that more moves will be made much sooner.

After a one-week delay, recommendations on the future of commissions on dealings in government stock will go from the markets committee to a full meeting of the Exchange Council next Tuesday.

Most members and Stock Exchange users now seem to agree that fixed commissions should be abolished in one "big bang" rather than being phased out gradually.

Nigerian loan crucial to developing nations African eyes on IMF talks

By John Lawless

The formal negotiations which opened yesterday in Washington between the International Monetary Fund and Nigerian finance officials over a \$3 billion loan are being watched with intense interest by 49 other African states.

Until it hit its own cash crisis, Nigeria was by far the biggest lender to the African Development Bank (ADB) which funds essential projects throughout the rest of the continent.

Its recent loans have brought drinking water to 125,000 Tumbians, resettled 4,500 subsistence farming families in Zimbabwe, cleared 2,200 hectares of Ethiopia for coffee growing, and helped rebuild the airport damaged by mercenaries in tourism-dependent Seychelles.

"honour commitments entered into legally by the previous government".

He has also pledged himself to "sustain existing cordial economic relations" and to promote the growth of Ecowas, the Economic Community of West African states.

But, as one of his officials said yesterday: "We now have to make a judgement as to where we can spend our money. We cannot be a big brother, but we would hope to still be our brother's keeper."

For neighbouring states, such brotherly love has had tangible results, particularly through joint ventures. Nigeria has built transmission stations in the Niger Republic and Chad to supply them with electricity from its own national grid. In Togo, a new cement works is due to start operating in about two months time.


The ADB is in no danger of going broke if Nigeria funds dried-up - By non-regional members, including Britain - but it would be seriously hit.

By the end of 1982 (the latest year for which figures are available) Nigeria has paid in about \$50m (£39m) to the bank, a seventh of the total amount committed by African states. It had promised another \$60m.

It even went as far as to renounce its own rights to draw loans and, encouraged by then burgeoning oil revenues, set up a separate fund in 1976, the Nigerian Trust Fund (NTF), which was administered by ADB.

It had paid in \$79m by February 1977, and four years later topped it up with \$52m.

Whether Nigeria is able to make a second replenishment of the NTF, of about \$20m - or more contributions to the ADB itself - will not be resolved when its eighth set of IMF talks close today.



SECURICOR

A year of investment for the future

The directors of Securicor Group plc and Security Services plc announce increases in profits from the established activities of both companies, though the overall figure before tax has been reduced, as foreshadowed in the interim report, by the post-acquisition development of the air courier business.

The proposed final dividend for Securicor Group is increased by 11.1% to 1p per share and that of Security Services by 9.8% to 1.8p per share, making respective totals for the year of 1.44p and 2.7p.

After deduction of £1,320,000 cost of development, reorganisation and expansion of the air courier business, to which reference is made later, the pre-tax profit of Securicor Group rose £115,000 to £11,522,000, while that of Security Services shows a reduction of £481,000 to £8,945,000.

United Kingdom: During the year we continued to experience severe competitive pressure on profit margins in our traditional services which we are steadily reorganising to cater for the current market as well as to take account of possible variations in the pattern of demand in the years ahead. At the same time, we have established new services to banks and other clients involving the handling, counting and specialised processing of bank notes and coins.

The United Kingdom parcels and freight services made a substantial advance during the year.

International: There was a positive performance overseas with a 7% improvement in profits to £2,142,000 from turnover up 14.2% to £30,791,000.

Apart from Holland trading has improved in all the nineteen countries in which we operate with France moving into profitability for the first time.

The Future: While our newly developing services in the handling, counting and specialised processing of banknotes and coins are not yet making a significant profit, their early and rapid success already gives promise of substantial future demand.

Securicor Granley Systems, which has developed from its integration with the original Securicor Alarms business, fulfilled expectations of becoming profitable during the year and made a substantial contribution after application of our traditional conservative accounting policy in relation to capitalisation and depreciation.

The development of the international air courier service, previously referred to, is essential to the continuing growth of the highly successful United Kingdom air freight and parcels business. During recent months the 50% rate of growth in traffic handled by us internationally has far outstripped competition. There is evidence that the value of our investment in air courier is substantially in excess of development expenditure.

Our agreement with British Telecom to establish a joint venture company to develop and operate one of the two licensed cellular radio networks in the United Kingdom has immense significance for the longer term potential of both Securicor Group and Security Services.

This new form of radio telephone service offers considerable advantages over other forms of radio telephones and has been described as the most significant advance in telecommunications since the invention of the telephone itself.

The directors consider that the developments in hand justify considerable confidence in the future, and the strength of the balance sheets provides a strong financial base from which to pursue the growth potential.

SECURICOR GROUP plc		SECURITY SERVICES plc	
Results for the year ended September 30th 1983		Results for the year ended September 30th 1983	
	1983 53 weeks £000	1982 52 weeks £000	1983 53 weeks £000
Turnover	236,739	210,694	200,380
UK	30,791	26,957	20,791
Overseas	267,530	237,651	231,171
Profit before tax	7,049	6,571	7,049
Industrial security and parcels service — UK	2,142	2,002	2,142
— Overseas	2,439	1,831	2,002
Finance, investments, and insurance	1,212	1,161	1,074
Property, hotels and vehicle division	12,842	11,665	10,265
Air Courier (1982 = 3 months only)	(1,320)	(258)	(1,320)
Tax	11,522	11,407	8,945
	4,900	4,428	3,988
Profit after tax	6,622	6,979	4,957
Due to outside shareholders	2,442	2,896	—
	4,180	4,083	4,957
Earnings per share	10.3p	10.2p	10.6p
Final Ordinary dividend (proposed)	1.0p	0.9p	1.8p
Interim Ordinary dividend (Paid)	0.44p	0.4p	0.9p

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts will be available early in March from the Company Secretary, Vigilant House, 24 Gillingham Street, London SW1V 1HZ.

The British economy grew by about 3 per cent last year—perhaps even a little more—and more than twice the rate typical of the post oil-shock 1970s. Yet the impact on jobs was slight. Unemployment rose by nearly 160,000 over the year.

Blue Circle Industries: Dr Gordon Marshall, deputy group managing director, is relinquishing the day-to-day management of the UK cement activities. He is handing over to Mr Keith Court, who becomes chief executive of Blue Circle Cement from April 1. Mr Marshall will continue to have overall responsibility for the UK operations, including BCC.

C. T. Bowring: Mr J. C. Hills and Mr J. A. Thomas are now directors of Bowring UK. Mr M. J. Thornton has been appointed a director of Bowring London; Mr N. J. B. Large has become chairman and chief executive of Bowring UK Marine Cargo; Mr W. H. Batchelor has been made chairman and Mr J. W. F. Kemp chief executive of Bowring Professional Indemnity with Mr H. M. J. Richie and Mr J. P. Sparks as directors; Mr J. M. Bonnan has become chairman of London Insurance Brokers; Mr C. M. Auer has been made chairman and R. A. Ferguson chief executive of Bowring & Laybourn; Mr J. A. Thomas has been appointed a director; Mr J. F. Wood and Mr P. A. Buck have been appointed directors of the international division of C. T. Bowring Insurance.

Cossalt: Mr E. A. Brian has been appointed chairman, Mr John Ross, the present chairman, becomes deputy chairman and continues as group chief executive.

Hydraulic Units: Mr Jefferson Baguley has become production director.

Carre, Orban & Partners: Sir Patrick Meany has joined the international advisory board.

Selgmann Rayner: Mr Laurence Ross and Mr Stanley Thornton have joined the company as associates.

General Trust: Mr Peter Gray, managing director of Touche, Renmant, has been appointed a director.

Hargreaves Group: Mr Fane Fernon has become a non-executive director.

Dyno-Rod: Mr Michael Fowler is the new financial director.

North Broken Hill Holdings: Mr R. L. Baillieu has been appointed deputy chairman.

Australian Paper: Mr John Garby has become a director.

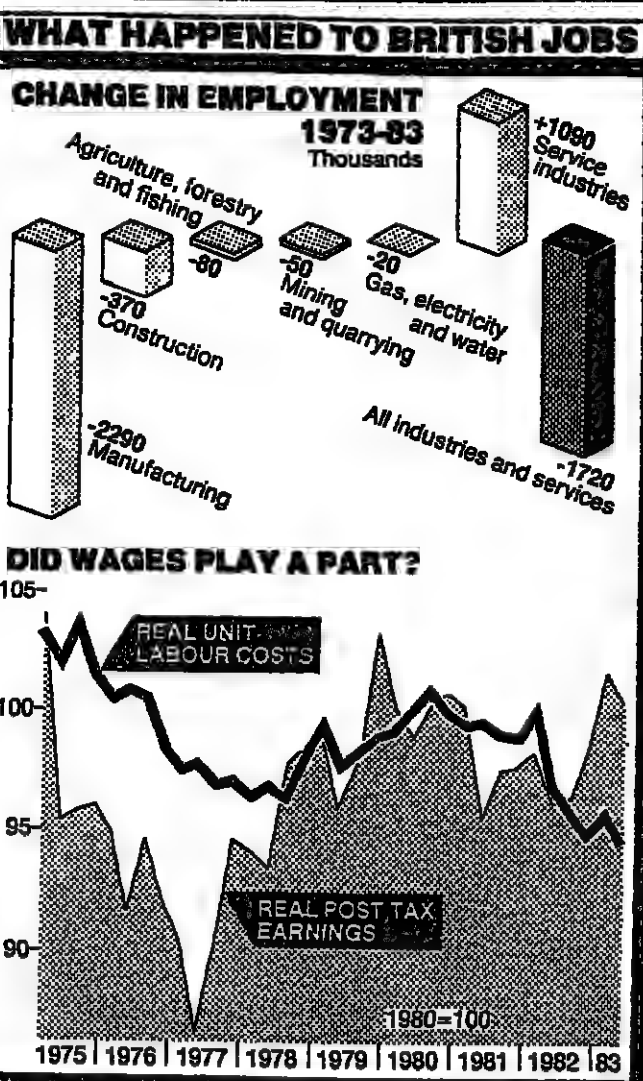
Milbury: Dr Paul Mihalopoulos has been appointed chief executive of Milbury and Mr Bill Smith has become joint managing director of Westminster Property Group, a subsidiary.

Why economic growth has not translated into more jobs

Economic growth in Britain may not be making any impact on unemployment, but it does already show signs of nudging wages upwards as yesterday's

figures for average earnings and recent wage settlements both confirm. In the United States, by contrast, real wages have lagged but many more jobs have

been created. Does this show a direct trade off between pay and jobs or are there other fundamental differences between Britain and America?



In one important respect the climate is worse now than in the 1970s because little or no expansion is likely in public services where employment growth was faster. In addition, most of the extra jobs have tended to be part-time work or work which has not suited to unemployed steelmen or construction workers.

The second lesson drawn by the Treasury from American experience concerns labour flexibility. Workers in the United States change jobs more than twice as often as in Britain, they are more ready to move to where the jobs are, and they have been willing to accept lower wages. Real hourly earnings, adjusted for the rise in the cost of living, fell during the 1970's. In Britain they rose steeply.

The other side of the coin is productivity. Rapid growth in output per worker can accommodate substantial increases in real wages without raising employers' costs. As recent British experience demonstrates — though ministers are justifiably anxious that costs may jump if productivity growth slows as expected while earnings continue to race ahead of prices.

Moreover, there is no doubt that a good deal of the rise in

The path to more jobs does not lie solely with workers

unemployment in the latest recession has been due to deficient demand rather than too high wages. In Germany, for instance, real wages fell – but so did employment. In Britain, real labour costs have been declining since 1980, but the number of jobs did not start to increase until 1983.

In these circumstances cuts in real wages will not make a significant impact on unemployment unless they are accompanied by rising demand, a combination which has proved highly potent in the United States.

"The conclusion that some unemployment is cyclical, some due to excessive levels of real wages is perhaps a let-down", one recent study admitted.* The lessons to be drawn from American experience are not as simple as they look.

*Macroeconomic prospects and policies for the European Community by R Dornbusch *et al*, Centre for European Policy Studies, 1983.

Electra buys 25% stake in Clayform

Electra Investment Trust has paid £750,000 for 25 per cent stake in Clayform Properties, the retail development company, which intends seeking a stock exchange listing soon.

Formed in 1980, Clayform is headed by Mr David Hyman, former chairman of the furniture chainstores group Henderson Kenton.

Clayform, which specialises in the conversion or redevelopment of large high street department stores, has a current development programme worth £30m.

This includes a £7m project at the former Rouse store in West Ealing, London where 10 of 12 new shops have been let, and a £20m joint project with Tarmac at Guildford.

Clayform has funded its developments with big institutions - partners have included Scottish Provident, Royal London and Canada Life.

Electra, which will be represented on Clayform's board, has £100m invested in unlisted securities, more than half of its portfolio.

● **Erskine House** has acquired part of the business of **M R Taylor and Co.**, a **U-BIX COPIER** dealer and servicing company, covering Hampshire.

company, covering Hampshire and Dorset for £432,000, in cash, £400,000 on completion, the balance when the assets taken over have been certified.

● TR City of London Trust's gross revenue for the half-year ended December 31, 1983 rose by 15.6 per cent to £2.55m. Helped by a greater number of

Helped by a greater number of dividend increases and a virtual absence of dividend cuts, net earnings per deferred stock unit increased by 18.1 per cent to 1.63n.

Lord Remnant, the chairman, states that the outlook in the second half looks good, but the rate of increase will be less.

● **Hollis Bros E.S.A.:** Hollis has exchanged a contract, subject to listing and appropriate warranties, to acquire

Metalliform. The acquisition is intended to be completed next Wednesday.

tubular steel furniture at Barnsley, West Yorkshire. The consideration is to be £825,000 and will be satisfied by the issue of 227 million new ordinary

or 2.27 million new ordinary shares of Hollis (about 3.8 per cent of the enlarged share capital), which have been placed on behalf of the sellers.

[illegible]

Tillotson launches traded options

By Vivien Goldsmith

Tillotson Financial Options, a subsidiary of the London Investment Trust, yesterday launched the first financial package tailor-made for the fast-growing traded financial options market.

The service allows money managers and speculators to take a view on the future price of currencies, bonds, gold and stock market indices such as the New York Standard and Poors or the new Stock Exchange 100 index.

By taking either a call option, which is the right to buy the underlying asset at a fixed price, or a put option, which is the right to sell at that price, traders and businessmen can limit their exposure to currency fluctuations.

But Tillotson expects that most customers will be using the markets to make dealing profits.

The oldest option market, on US Treasury bonds started only 14 months ago. The Standard and Poors index launched last March already averages more than 100,000 options traded per day - more than the entire number of futures contracts traded in London in a day.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
City of London	9%
Consolidated Credit	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co.	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Today deposits on terms of under £10,000. Rate £10,000 and up £20,000, 9.5% £20,000 and over 10%.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Guinness rises as recovery is confirmed

There were a few words of good cheer yesterday at the offices of Laurie Milbank, the broker, after a visit by Arthur Guinness, the brewer. The shares responded with a rise of 4p to 141p - just 6p short of the high - but Laurie Milbank remained coy about what was discussed over the lunch.

A spokesman for the broker said: "We have been buyers of the shares for quite a while. I didn't hear anything to alter our view."

Following the appointment of Mr Ernest Saunders as managing director two years ago, the fortunes of the ailing brewer have turned distinctly better. Word in the market suggests this recovery is likely to continue.

Laurie Milbank, which estimates profits will rise "quite strongly" over the next couple of years, expects a profit for the current year of £70m, against £58.8m in 1983. For 1985, that figure could stretch to nearer £80m and this will eventually be reflected in the share price.

Elsewhere in the drinks sector, Border Breweries rose

L. Messel, the stockbroker, were pleased with Tuesday's interim figures from Fleet Holdings showing pre-tax profits more than doubled to £6.39m. As a result, Messel have upgraded their full year figure to £15m, compared with £9.53m last year.

Working on the basis of the new figure and the imminent Reuter flotation Messel estimates the shares are now worth 200p, with further upside potential should Mr Holmes at Court increase his 9 per cent stake. The shares rose 2p to 183p yesterday.

43p to 155p after receiving an approach.

The rest of the equity market welcomed the overnight rally on Wall Street where the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by nearly 14 points. Prices were marked higher in London at the start of business and dealers reported active two-way trade.

Unfortunately, prices failed to hold their best levels and this was reflected in the FT index, which closed 4.5 up at 816.4, having been 7.3 higher earlier in the day. The Stock Exchange Index of 100 top companies also maintained its strong run, closing 6.0 up at 1033.0.

Another firm performance by

sterling on the foreign exchange prompted rises of up to 1% among Government securities.

There were renewed bid whispers about Gestetner, the office equipment manufacturer, where the shares jumped 12p to a new high of 93p. At least three large broking firms with strong European connections were close on 1 million shares changed hands. Mr David Gestetner, the chairman, said: "We know nothing about it. Anything you tell me is news."

Gestetner has long been tipped as a possible takeover target and over the past six months has risen from a low of 29p, but, with the Gestetner family controlling the bulk of the all-important voting shares, any approach would have to be agreed.

Gulf Fisheries, which handles the investments of the Kuwaiti Royal Family, has once again cut its stake in Laurus, the international trading giant, where it was once the largest single shareholder.

Gulf has now sold 9 million shares since the end of January, as the Laurus price pushed towards the 130p level. At last night's 140p, Gulf's sales would be valued at over £12m. Gulf still continues to own 38.6

million shares, or about 10.8 per cent of the company, valued last night at £40m. It is understood Gulf feels it can find a better home for its money in US investments.

TI Group, the struggling engineering concern, rose 12p to 250p amid suggestions that Electrolux the Swedish group was interested in making a bid. But, last night, TI retorted with the comment: "There is nothing

in these rumours. We certainly have not had a bid approach."

Bid speculation was again rife among the discount houses where Alexander's Discount has just received an approach - only a matter of weeks after bid talks between Gerard & National and an unnamed suitor, thought to be Mercantile House, were terminated after both sides failed to agree on a price.

A statement said it had received an approach which may, or may not, lead to an offer for the issued share capital of the company. The shares leapt 48p to a new high 447p on the news and a further announcement will be made as soon as practicable.

Gerard & National also responded with a rise of 10p to 307p. Other gains were witnessed in Cater Allen Holdings 15p to 478p, Union Discount 10p to 688p, Jessel Toyne 3p to 89p, King & Sherson 4p to 130p, Smith St Aubyn 1p to 53p and Clive Discount 1p to 51p.

The high street banks appeared firmer ahead of next month's reporting season. Barclay rose 3p to 527p, Lloyds Bank 2p to 544p, Midland 2p to 394p and National Westminster 3p to 723p.

In builders Barrat Develop-

ment the figure is expected to be about the £60m level compared with last year's figure of £52.7m. Earlier estimates were as high as £65m.

Shares of Actrow 'A', the engineer, are being tipped as a recovery prospect and one mystery buyer has succeeded in picking up more than 1 million shares this week alone. Yesterday the price added 1p to 22½p - for a rise on the week of 2½p. Over the past three years pre-tax losses have totalled around £18m.

Mr Paul Bristol's Bristol Oil & Minerals has decided to have a shake-up of its oil exploration business and is selling three of its subsidiaries, including BW Mud, Northern Barite Producers and Oilfield Equipment from the property division which the buyer is a consortium headed by the BW Mud management and a number of sympathetic institutions.

Between them they have formed a company to buy all the assets, knowhow and goodwill valued at £2.2m. Net proceeds from the sale after paying back outstanding borrowings amounts to £4.16m.

Wood Mackenzie, the stockbrokers, are recommending Royal Bank of Scotland as a strong buy and say the price allows little for a possible bid. The group's restructuring should help push profits higher over the next couple of years and shareholders can expect average dividend growth because of the group's vulnerability to a bid. The shares rose 4p to 224p yesterday.

Mr Bristol has already used part of the proceeds to top up his stake in Berkeley Exploration & Production, one of his old spin-offs, with the purchase of an extra 375,000 shares. Bristol Oil & Mineral now owns a total of 1.55 million shares in Berkeley amounting to 13.18 per cent. Berkeley improved 3p to 133p, while Bristol Oil & Mineral lost an early lead to close 1p down on the day at 63p.

Coats Patons is stepping up the pressure in its bid for control of Aero Needles, Britain's largest producer of knitting needles, with the purchase by broker Rowe & Pitman in the market of £7,000 shares at the bid price of 86p.

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank of England took account of the problems the market has been having lately in mustering adequate liquidity and included a £177m "repo" in the total £417m assistance it provided to the discount houses.

The bank opened with a forecast of £350m shortage and that figure went without amendment throughout the session.

The middle treasury of assistance amounted to £356m, comprising £179m of outright purchases of bills, across all four bands at established intervention prices, and £177m of purchase and resale agreements

at interest rates of 9¼ to 9½ per cent to mature tomorrow. In the afternoon, the bank bought a further £26m of band two banks' bills and followed this up with late additional assistance of £35m.

Houses were still bidding in the range of 9¼ per cent to 1¼ per cent until well into the afternoon. One after the late assistance did funds start to flow. Then they gushed sufficiently to allow closing balances to be found at rates anywhere between 7¼ per cent and 4 per cent, with help from a swing on the exchequer accounts.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton.
Silver in pieces per tray ounce.

COPPER HIGH GRADE
Three months 101.90-11.50
One month 101.90-11.50
COPPER LOW GRADE
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00
ZINC
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00
NICKEL
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00
LEAD
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00
TIN
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00
SILVER
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00
ALUMINIUM
Three months 98.70-99.00
One month 98.70-99.00

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
Gold 392.50-393.00
Silver 101.90-11.50
Copper 98.70-99.00
Zinc 98.70-99.00
Nickel 98.70-99.00
Lead 98.70-99.00
Tin 98.70-99.00
Silver 98.70-99.00
Aluminium 98.70-99.00

WHEAT AND LIVERPOOL COMMISSION
At 1000 hours, prices at representative markets on Feb 16.
No. 1 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 2 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 3 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 4 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 5 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 6 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
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No. 8 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 9 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.
No. 10 Soft, 194.50 per bush (100 lb) 411.

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Property bolsters Crest Nicholson

By Andrew Cornelius

Crest Nicholson, the construction and industrial holding group, yesterday reported a £288,000 increase in pre-tax profits to £7.01m in the year to October 31 after strong growth from its property development activities.

The progress was achieved despite extraordinary charges of £463,000 after the decision to pull out of the Coronet-EM pump and generator business which was hit by falling orders from its established markets in the Middle East and West Africa.

Profits from the commercial and industrial businesses were also held back by reduced contributions from the ophthalmic business of the Crofton Group and the international yacht brokerage operation.

Borrowings rose to £13.8m against net cash of £3.2 million at the end of last year, largely because of the increased activity in the property division which helped boost group turnover from £56m to £72m.

Mr Roger Lewis, chief executive, said the board is confident there will be further real growth in profits in the current year. The acquisition of the Green-wood Group, in Reading, which supplies soldering equipment and tools to the electronics industries and the acquisition of the BVC industrial vacuum business will help the growth.

The BVC deal also provided 22 acres of freehold property near the M25 in Surrey.

The board is recommending payment of an increased final dividend of 2.1p per share, making 3.35p for the year, against 3.15p last time.

Talks boost Border Breweries' shares

General Consolidated Investment Trust Dividend for 1983 raised from 7p to 7.65p net a share. Figures in £000. Revenue 2,531 (2,358). Franked dividends and interest 1,503 (1,504) and unfranked dividends and interest 1,028 (854). Interest payable 28 (38). Expenses 144 (137). Pretax revenue 2,359 (2,183). Tax 869 (804). EPS 7.61p (7.31p).

Reed Executive: Results for first 52 weeks of current 15-month period. Figures in £000. Turnover 36,045 (33,916 for preceding year). Pretax profit 1,011 (loss £20). Total dividend declared so far is 0.2p net a share, against 0.1p for previous year.

Chairman reports that the reorganization of 1982 and early 1983 will ensure there is a sound foundation for growth this year.

RM Douglas (Holdings): Half-year to Sept 30, 1983. Interim payment unchanged at 0.375p net a share. Figures in £000. Turnover 64,203 (65,374). Trading profit 1,994 (1,505). Pretax profit 200 (loss 96), after depreciation 1,876 (1,704) and redundancy costs 83 (nil). Tax 340 (381).

Sinclair and Jack Mines: No dividend for 1983. Figures in £000. Revenue 1,955. Net inc 967 (2,074). Tax 437 (873).

Copenhagen Handelsbank: Div for 1983, 15 per cent. Figures in Danish Kr millions (Kr equals £14.66). Divs, interest and commission received 5576.5 (6012.9). Interest paid 4038 (4309). Other ord inc 476.3 (406.5). Pretax profit 2246.2 (663.5) after salaries and pensions 1105.2 (1016), other expenses 463.6 (422.1), provisions for bad and doubtful debts 300 (434). Tax 862.2 (186.1). Transfer from inv fund 30 (30) and from prior year 165.3 (164.1).

Relevance Industrial Holdings: Half-year to Oct 31, 1983. Interim payment up from 0.85p to 0.94p net a share. Figures in £000. Board reports that the outcome for the full year is difficult to predict. Trading up to Christmas was buoyant, but the pattern of trading afterwards always takes a few weeks to establish. However, the Chairman would be disappointed not to see a continuing improvement.

Joseph Webb: Half-year to Sept 30, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 3,223 (2,505). Trading profit 653 (326). Pretax profit 452 (95), after interest 200 (232). Tax 298 (16). Interim payment: 0.13p net a share (same).

Reliance Industrial Holdings: Half-year to Oct 31, 1983. Interim payment up from 0.85p to 0.94p net a share. Figures in £000. Board reports that the outcome for the full year is difficult to predict. Trading up to Christmas was buoyant, but the pattern of trading afterwards always takes a few weeks to establish. However, the Chairman would be disappointed not to see a continuing improvement.

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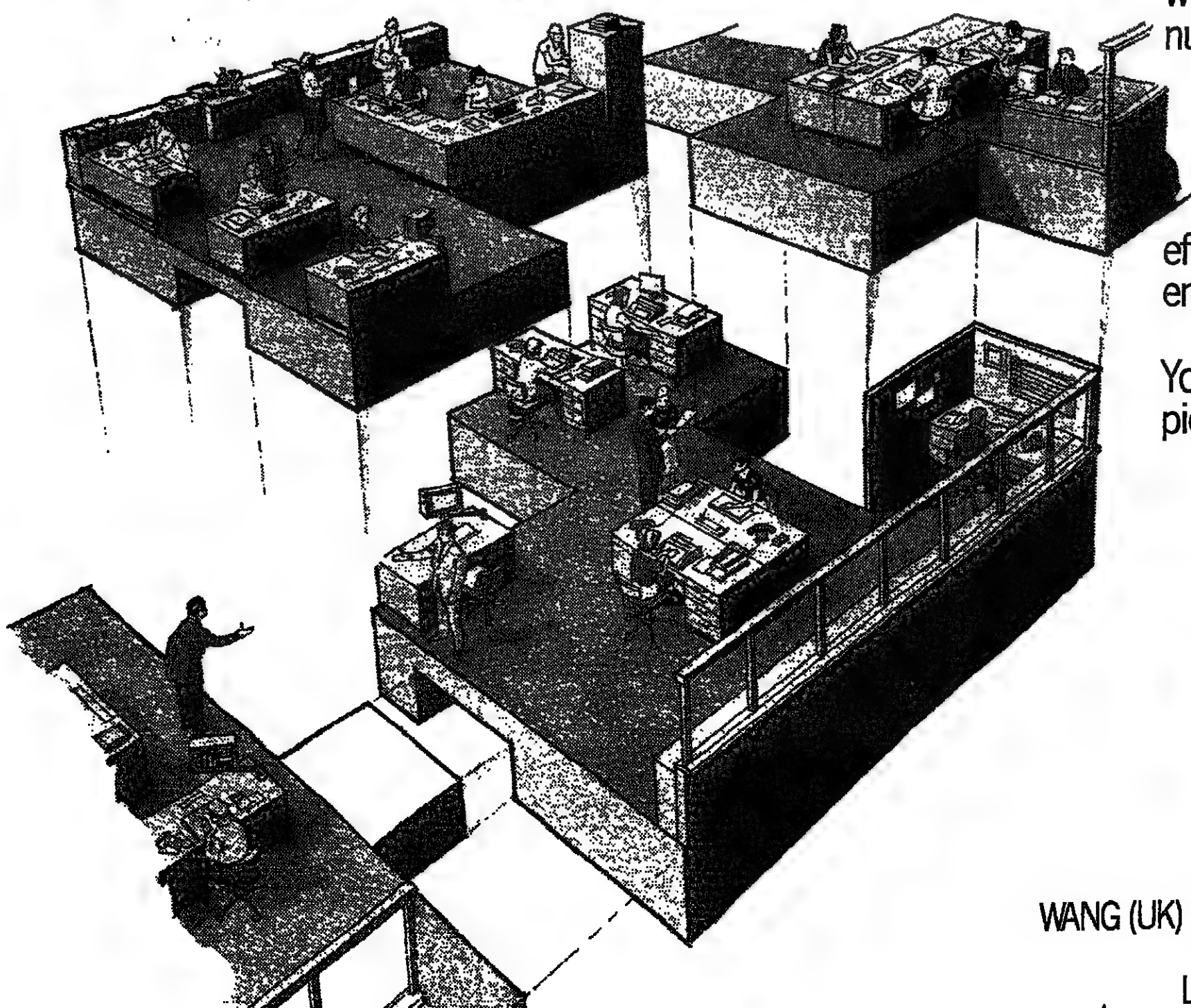
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RACING

Dalbury team to complete a swift treble

By Dick Hinder

Peter Haynes, the Chichester trainer, is certainly striking while the iron is hot. His progressive young hurdler Dalbury is attempting to win his third race in 16 days when he tackles the Burnham-on-Sea Handicap Hurdle at Taunton today.

Last Thursday Dalbury presented Haynes with an ideal gift for his thirty-third birthday, when romping home by four lengths from Park Rainbow at Wincanton. Previously he won by the same margin, at Wincanton, partnered on both occasions by the promising 7lb-claimer Peter Corrigan, who again has the ride.

Corrigan, who joined Haynes from Richard Hancocks four months ago, was on the mark with Deep In Debt at Folkestone yesterday for his new stable, and will help to offset Dalbury's penalty for his Wincanton success.

Party Miss, who was beaten 12 lengths by Dalbury at Wincanton, will make a much closer contest of it this time on 15lb better terms, and Odin, from Brian Chinn's small but in-form stable, is on a handy mark. But Dalbury looks capable of defying top weight in style.

Stan Mellor, the Lambourn trainer, has had a steady stream of winners recently - Mister Lord and Kasey scored for him at the end of last week - and Nudge Nudge, who chased home Another Pal at Wolverhampton last time out, should carry on the good work in the first division of the Staple Fitzpaine Novices Hurdle. The second division of this event may go to Fulke Walwyn's only runner at the meeting, Admin-

ral's Ruler, who stayed on too strongly for Nick Gaselee's El Mansour at Windsor.

David Elsworth runs his Grand National horse, Canford Ginger, in the Cecil Hunt Memorial Trophy, where he faces stiff opposition from Herr Captain and Haybale. But John Edwards, the Leominster trainer, has decided to oppose with his dual course winner Drops O'Brandy, rather than go to Southwell against weaker opposition, the hint should be taken.

Hywel Davies replaces the injured Colin Brown on Les Kennard's Quazar Light in the two-mile Glastonbury Handicap Chase and this combination may prove too strong for Straight Cash and Goldenogon.

There was a flood of money for French Lieutenant, backed from 5-2 to even, when he made his first appearance of the winter season at Hereford early this month. But the seven-year-old let down his supporters with some indifferent jumping, and was already beaten when he brought down at the third-leaving Chealide Green to win unopposed, French Lieutenant should recoup the losses at Southwell today when he should have the beating of False Bay in the first division of the Reindeer Novices' Hunter Chase. The second leg may go to the consistent Another Simon.

Alan Jarvis-trained Vendevar, who ran well against Haybale last week, can get back on the winning trail in the Star and Garter Handicap Chase and Kasey Lady can make the most of her weight allowance from Sword Game in the Tote Handicap Hurdle.

Wayward Lad in the clear

Rumours that the virus which has struck Michael Dickinson's Hardwood stable had reached the Gold Cup favourite, Wayward Lad, were soundly scotched by the champion trainer yesterday.

"There is absolutely nothing wrong with him," Dickinson said. "He is sound and has passed the blood test."

Dickinson, who normally achieves a 50 per cent success rate with his runners, has had all his horses

tested following the poor running of several short-cut horses. As a result, ten Hardwood horses are now on the sick list, including Ashley House, who is one of Dickinson's three Grand National hopes.

Dickinson reported that his other main Gold Cup hope, last year's winner Bregava, still had the virus. "He is fairly perky and I am reasonably confident that he will be fit and well on Gold Cup day," he said.

Francome nine short of 1,000 winners

John Francome is nine short of his 1,000th winner in Britain following a double on Left Bank and Nalan at Folkestone, yesterday. If the champion jockey escapes injury, he could beat Stan Mellor's record of 1,034 winners before the close of the season in June.

Poor jumping had marred Left Bank's previous performances, but Francome could place at the last in the Cliftonville Handicap Chase. He gave Left Bank every opportunity to get a good view of his fences and the combination jumped to the front at the last to beat Buck and Wing.

The stewards called in his trainer, David Morley, to explain the horse's improved performance compared with his last run at

Leicester where he finished a well-beaten fifth. The stewards accepted Morley's statement that the horse had lost confidence after his initial two races this season.

At Worcester Michael Dickinson's stable suffered another reverse in the Lowmoor Handicap Chase when Fearless Imp after making the running and jumping well suddenly went to pieces at the last to be convincingly run out of it by Jugador.

Michael Dickinson had something to cheer about when it was announced yesterday that Robert Sangster's £1m deal to buy Walscombe stables in Oxfordshire, where Dickinson will train for him on the first starting in 1986 has been confirmed.

Hywel Davies is a fast-closing fourth with a flair for doubles in the jockeys' championship

Faceless hero with champion's look

Finding your way to Hywel Davies' country air gives you an instant insight into the character of the man. The rambling old farmhouse that Davies, one of our leading National Hunt jockeys, is in the process of gutting and refurbishing is hidden deep away in the starkly beautiful Wiltshire countryside at the end of a seemingly endless crater-ridden track that makes the moon's surface seem like the M1.

His choice of such a private dwelling reflects the fact that, despite being a rising star in a world that is part of the entertainment industry and subject to all the attendant media hype, Davies has remained his own man and is not unhappy to be a faceless hero.

Articulate, personable and very much a professional's professional, Davies is regarded as a certain future champion by those who know best about these things. Last season he was third in the table with 85 victories; this time, after a slow start by his principal stable, that of Captain Tim Forster, he is a fast-closing fourth and has recently been picking off doubles (and the odd treble) with the aplomb of Eric Britrow.

'Not flash enough'

And if you add to all this the not insignificant detail that he bears a more than passing resemblance to a certain Clint Eastwood (no, it is not just his attractive wife, Rachel, who says so), you might think that the 27-year-old Welshman provides all the ingredients for any media man (or should it be woman) to make a meal of.

Davies' rationalization of his lack of exposure is simple: "I suppose I'm not flash enough." Rachel, stroking Clint (her pet dog), backs this up by saying: "We're quiet people and so is Captain Forster. However, she then reveals that even if her other half is philosophical about his anonymity she is not a little perplexed about it. "Whenever you watch racing on TV they always say 'There's John Francome' or 'That's Jonjo's mount'. Hywel never gets a mention."

Francome and O'Neill have little cause for complacency. Apart from Davies' undoubted natural ability, he has the one quality that characterizes all champions - single-mindedness. Riding big-race winners is not nearly as important to him as becoming champion jockey, he says, and talking to the men for whom he has ridden, the same theme crops up time and again - that of the nice guy who is determined to be first.

Forster, who trains near Davies at Wantage, has this to say about the man who has been his stable jockey for the past three seasons: "He's the ideal stable jockey. I took him on principally because he's very strong and the right jockey to handle the big, old-fashioned type of chasers that I favour. I also like him as a person. He gets on with the jockeys and gets on with everybody. But he does have an ambition, to be a champion. He's got that killer instinct to get to the top. He's the sort who will worry himself sick if he's getting left behind." Pursuit of his goal involves Davies in, among other things, keeping his natural body weight of 11 stones down to around 10 stones in order to be eligible for as wide a range of mounts as possible.

It also involves him in watching endless race videos, not only to improve his technique, but to watch for promising runs by other horses whose trainers he will then approach for the ride. "It's a business," he says.



Hywel Davies is no media man despite his resemblance to Clint Eastwood

"If I see that John's hurt himself I'm not afraid to ring up and try to take his place," Francome, in fact, says good humouredly that Davies spends his life on the telephone.

Davies' steady determination was certainly not born of deprivation. While he did not arrive in this world with a silver whip in his hand, his early days were comfortable enough. He was born the youngest of three brothers in a farmhouse, where his father was a farmer and also a small hotel.

Father and mother had greater horizons for young Hywel, but after he had taken his diploma in business studies at Aberystwyth College a career in the City proved no match for the lure of the saddle. With encouragement from Taffy, his older brother who was apprenticed to Army age, Davies sought and was offered a position as an amateur rider attached to Gifford's powerful Findon stable.

Winners came but progress was steady rather than spectacular. With Bob Champion as stable jockey and Richard Rowe, Gerry Enright and other talented

young riders on Gifford's books, Davies found that the opportunities even for a rider of his calibre were limited. So, after three seasons at Findon, he accepted the offer as first jockey to Armytage (Taffy had been forced to retire through injury). He rode 80 winners in the two seasons he was with Armytage and then, with Armytage's reluctant blessing, made the move to Forster's more powerful yard in the 1980/81 season.

Forster mentioned strength in the saddle as being one of Davies' greatest qualities. However he has been cautioned only once for excessive use of the whip, but has firm views on this topic.

"We're professionals, we have a job to do. Horses are like children - they always see how far they can go. You have to give them a slap to put them in their place. I have ridden in Norway, where you are not allowed to hit a horse unless you keep your hands on his shoulder and give him a tap. They (the horses) laugh at you. It's not a race. I think it makes dogs (racing jargon for a horse who will not give his all) out of horses."

On another, more contentious issue, that of race fixing, loyalty to colleagues makes Davies more guarded, but he nevertheless, has some interesting things to say. He himself has never been approached to stop a horse and has known of only two jockeys who have been.

He agrees with Ryan Price's view that the public see skulduggery everywhere and cites a recent example of how an innocent happening can seem crooked in their eyes. "When Drumdowney won at Chesham for being pulled up in his previous race, *The Sporting Life* man said there should have been an inquiry."

National ambition

"Yes, there should have been. Even Captain Forster said 'I'm ashamed, they should have had us in'. The horse had just come over from Ireland and it took us a long time to get him right. When I mentioned him in his first race at Worcester he reentered it and pulled himself up. We found on the gallops afterwards that he preferred being allowed to bowl along in front and at Chesham when he won he was given his head. The way it read in *The Life*, it made it sound as if I had stopped the horse before."

Apart from winning the jockeys' championship, Davies' greatest ambition is to win a Grand National. In this he has a powerful ally in the shape of Last Suspect, who beat last year's Aintree hero, Corbiere, at Chesham recently.

Last Suspect belongs to Anne, Duchess of Westminster, who owned the Arkle. The Duchess refused to risk Arkle over the Aintree obstacles but is not totally against the National. Last Suspect missed the entries for this year's race but Forster believes that the Duchess may well agree to his running in 1985. Forster and Davies see him as an ideal National type; Forster should know, having won two Nationals with West To Do and Ben Nevis.

So if you are looking for a couple of long-range bets you could do worse than take out about Last Suspect for next year's Aintree spectacular and Hywel Davies for next season's jockeys' title. Better still, back them in a double. After all, that is what Davies seems to specialize in these days.

John Karter

Taunton

GOING: good to soft.

1.45 STAPLE FITZPAINE NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £588: 2m) 18 runners

1	519102	SAMMY LUX (K. Durr) K Durr 6-12-10	Mr P Schofield 4
2	4034	CELTIC CAPRI (C. J. Cork) J. Cork 5-1-4	J. Laich
3	4034	WINDY HILL (M. J. Jones) M. J. Jones 5-1-4	J. Laich
4	4000	KANG FLOWER (C. J. Cork) J. Cork 5-1-4	Lorne Vincent
5	4034	LOVERLY BOY (M. J. Jones) M. J. Jones 5-1-4	J. Laich
6	4034	MALINA STAR (C. J. Cork) J. Cork 5-1-4	J. Laich
7	4034	MILLERS WAY (M. J. Jones) M. J. Jones 5-1-4	J. Laich
8	4034	PRINCESS ALMA (J. Durr) J. Durr 5-1-4	George Knight
9	4034	PRINCESS ALMA (J. Durr) J. Durr 5-1-4	George Knight
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Court of Appeal Law Report February 16 1984 Chancery Division

'Locally' in planning notice is intelligible and enforceable by court

Alderson v Secretary of State for the Environment
Before Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Robert Goff
[Judgment delivered February 9]

The word "locally" in a perfectly intelligible meaning and its presence in a planning enforcement notice did not render that notice invalid. The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the Secretary of State for the Environment from a decision by Mr Justice Webster on October 6, 1983 (*The Times*, October 10, 1983), who had held that the word "locally" had no ascertainable meaning in law, and had declared the notice invalid.

Mr Stephen Atkinson for the secretary of state, Mr William Kingston for the respondent.

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said that the notice served on the

respondent, Dr Douglas Arthur Alderson, had sought to enforce a planning condition that his house should be occupied by "a person employed or last employed locally in agriculture... or in forestry".

That wording was based on a recommended form set out in Department of Environment Circular 5/1968 and amended (substituting the words "in the locality" for "locally") in Circular 24/1973. It was a standard condition used thousands of times all over the country.

A similar condition, but excluding the word "locally", had been held to be valid on the test applied by the House of Lords in *Foster Properties Ltd v Buckingham County Council* [1961] AC 637; see Lord Denning at p 678 and Lord Jenkins at pp 693 and 694. In fact, Lord Denning had even suggested at p 680, that the words "in the

locality" should be implied in that notice.

In his Lordship's judgment, applying the test in *Foster*, the word "locally" in the present notice had a perfectly intelligible meaning. Though a few doubtful cases might arise, it would always be possible for the courts to determine whether the condition had been broken.

There were many words, used in statutes, the meaning of which was ultimately a question of fact for a tribunal. Lord Justice Waller made that clear in the passages cited.

His Lordship concluded that the condition and the notice were valid and that the appeal should therefore be allowed.

Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Robert Goff delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Henshall Erskine & Co Solicitors; & Dickson, Stoke on Trent.

Lump sum in lieu of commission is taxable

McGregor (Inspector of Taxes) v Randall
McGregor (Inspector of Taxes) v Randall
[Judgment delivered February 9]

A once-only payment of £6,000 by an employer to an employee to vary the terms of a service agreement by taking away his right to receive commission, was an emolument from the employment and taxable under Schedule E. Mr Justice Scott held in the Chancery Division allowing an appeal by the Crown from the King's Lynn General Commissioners.

The commissioners had determined that sums of £6,000 paid to each of the taxpayers, Mr Derek Randall and Mr Christopher Gilbert, were not chargeable to income tax under the provisions of sections 181 and 183 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

Mr Robert Carwith for the Crown; Mr Randall did not appear and was not represented; Mr Gilbert in person.

MR JUSTICE SCOTT said that the taxpayers were directors of a group of companies and had service agreements entitling them to receive salaries and commissions.

In 1979 the group became wholly owned by a Swedish company that had a policy of remunerating executives by payment of salary only. The taxpayers agreed to accept £6,000 each for the variation of their service agreements. Additionally they both received substantial increases in salary.

The question was whether those sums were taxable emoluments within the provisions of sections 181 and 183 of the 1970 Act. Following the decisions in *Prendergast v Cameron* (1940) 23 TC 23 and *Renley v Murray* (1950) 1 All ER 908, if an employee accepted a lump sum in lieu of a right to receive commission, that sum was taxable.

The £6,000 might have been trivial in amount in comparison with the commission that might have been earned, but the commissioners were not justified in law in their conclusion that the sums were not chargeable to Schedule E tax. The appeal was allowed.

Solicitor: Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

British Airways' application against Lakers fails

British Airways Board v Laker Airways Ltd and Others
The Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson) made no order on February 3 on an application by British Airways pursuant to liberty to apply granted by the Court of Appeal in its judgment and order last July (*The Times* July 27, 28, 1983; [1983] 3 WLR 344). The order was that Laker should use their best endeavour to procure that British Airways should cease to be parties to Lakers' action against them and other airlines in the United States.

The order was stayed pending an

appeal to the House of Lords, leave for which was granted by the House on November 10, the hearing being fixed to commence on June 5, 1984. Pending the hearing of the appeal the House of Lords refused to grant or permit the further prosecution of the action against British Airways or taking any steps in that action with respect to British Airways.

Lakers had caused a subpoena to be issued directed to Mr John Meredith, general manager of British Airways for the Americas to take his deposition in the action.

Lakers had undertaken not to offer Mr Meredith's testimony or

his deposition against British Airways for any purpose even if British Airways remained a party to the United States action after Lakers' appeal to the House of Lords.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the short answer to the application was that it either varied the Court of Appeal's order or it did not. If it did not, it was unnecessary. If it did vary the order, it was outside the court's jurisdiction and the court was *functus officio*.

Consideration should be given by the parties to applying to the House of Lords for the hearing of the appeal to be expedited.

Validity of 'without prejudice'

Norwich Union Life Insurance Society v Tony Walker Ltd
Before Mr Justice Harman
[Judgment delivered February 7]

The rubric "without prejudice" was not properly attached to a notice from a lessor to his lessee calling for a rent review. Although no special form of words was necessary to constitute a valid trigger notice, a notice that was equivocal was ineffective.

Mr Justice Harman so held in the Chancery Division in answer to a question raised by an originating summons issued by the lessor as to whether or not he had given a valid notice in writing calling for a rent review.

Mr Derek Wood, QC and Mr Paul Morgan for the lessor; Mr Robert Pryor, QC and Mr Edward Cole for the lessee.

Employment immediately before transfer

Alpha Fields Ltd v Barratt
Whether or not a person was employed "immediately before" the transfer of a business within the meaning of regulation 5(3) of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (SI 1981 No 1794) was a question of fact dependent upon the circumstances of each case. Mr Justice Tudor Evans, said in the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

His Lordship, sitting with Mr E. Alderson and Mr J. Powell on February 9, said that the effect of the regulations was to provide that transfer of an undertaking from one person to another did not operate so as to terminate the contract of employment of any person employed by the transferee.

For such a contract to be preserved the person had to be employed by the transferee "immediately before the transfer". The words used in regulation 5(3) were not "at the time of" the transfer.

Some moment in time before the transfer was clearly contemplated as being the appropriate time to be taken. Parliament did not intend a fixed moment in time to be taken.

It was impossible to say what period did and what period did not qualify. It depended on the circumstances of each particular case. Whether the dismissal was sufficiently proximate to the transfer. A gap of two days as in the present case was not too long to qualify within regulation 5(3).

Taxpayer's duty to attend oral hearing

Banin v Mackinlay (Inspector of Taxes)
Hearings of appeals by special or general commissioners of income tax were normally conducted orally and commissioners were not obliged to accept written accounts of a taxpayer's case. Mr Justice Harman said in the Chancery Division on February 8.

His Lordship dismissed an appeal from a decision of the special commissioners, arrived at in the taxpayer's absence, determining his liability to income tax from 1973 to 1982, in which they had refused to admit a sworn statement of his arguments.

SIR JUSTICE HARMAN said that section 50(5) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 empowered taxpayers to plead before commissioners either orally or in writing on behalf of any party to the appeal. But that provision did not extend to litigants in person.

If a taxpayer wished to conduct his own case he could not merely produce a written statement in a written form; he had to attend for an oral hearing, producing documents, if required, to supplement his case.

Commissioners had a discretion to admit written submissions in certain circumstances, but it could not be said that they were obliged to do so. The taxpayer's written "pleadings and affidavits" in this case.

Striking insurance broker off register

James v Insurance Brokers Registration Council
The Disciplinary Committee of the Insurance Brokers Registration Council was not under a duty of its own motion to offer an adjournment to a person accused of a disciplinary offence. In the order for his removal from the register, where he had already been given a generous opportunity to put his house in order but had not done so.

Mr Justice Mann so stated in the Queen's Bench Division on February 7, dismissing an appeal by Mr Hubert Stanley James, brought under section 18(1) of the Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977, against a decision of the disciplinary committee to direct his name to be erased from the register of insurance brokers under section 15(2) of that Act for contravention of rules made under the Act, relating to professional indemnity insurance, which had rendered him unfit to have his name on the register.

HIS LORDSHIP said that this was the first appeal to be brought under the provisions of the 1977 Act. The court would be slow to interfere with the professional judgment of a tribunal such as the disciplinary committee, and in any event there had been abundant material before the committee which could justify its decision.

The council had taken effect, by virtue of section 18(4) of the Act, pending the determination of this appeal, but it would now do so; the suspension did not continue pending any appeal to the Court of Appeal. The court had no power to extend it, and would not have exercised such a power if it had had it.

Varying periodical payments order

Moore v Ball
The words "on complaint" in section 60 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 which provides: "Where a magistrates' court has made an order for the periodical payment of money, the court may, on complaint revoke, vary or vary the order" should be construed so as to apply to any person who had the right to receive the periodical payments for his own benefit.

The Divisional Court of the Family Division (Sir John Holles, President and Mr Justice Halls) so held on January 30, allowing an appeal by case stated on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Social Services, from the refusal of the Justices of the Peace to hear an application for an increase of an order made under the Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957. By virtue of section 19(5) of the Supplementary Benefits Act 1976 the order had been varied requiring £2-a-week maintenance payments to be made to the secretary of state instead of to the mother.

THE PRESIDENT, with whom Mr Justice Halls agreed, said that it

had been demonstrated that the secretary of state had not been given specifically the power to apply to the court to take advantage of section 60 of the 1980 Act.

The justices had construed "on complaint" narrowly and had felt unable to extend the definition to encompass anyone other than a party to the proceedings.

In construing "on complaint" in the section, logic should dictate that any person who had the right to receive periodical payments for his own benefit could apply for a variation.

European Law Report

Reducing cost of state drugs bill

Duphar et al v Netherlands
Case 238/82
Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bakmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, Lord MacKenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Due, U. Everling and C. Kakouris.
Advocate General: F. Mancini.
[Judgment delivered February 7]

In order to reduce the financial burden on the sickness insurance fund of the Netherlands the cost of pharmaceuticals the Dutch Minister of Health adopted in 1982 a decree providing that persons subject to the compulsory health care insurance scheme should have the right to reimbursement of the cost of supply of other products set out in the annexes to the decree. Supply of some of those products was prohibited because there were cheaper medicines available for the same therapeutic effect; for others the cost of supply would no longer be reimbursed by the sickness insurance fund because they could be bought other than through a chemist.

The cost of other specified medicines would only be

Court of Justice of the European Communities

reimbursed if the sickness insurance fund so authorized. Authorization would be given only if it could be shown that the medicines were necessary to supply the medicament would compromise to an intolerable degree the results of treatment.

Twenty-three pharmaceutical companies brought proceedings before the Dutch courts for an order suspending the implementation of the decree on the ground that it was contrary to Community law. The Dutch court referred the matter for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the Treaty.

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

The legislation in question ensured that an important percentage of the population was reimbursed for the cost of medicines. The reimbursement could be prescribed by an approved doctor. Community law did not limit the power of the member states to organize their social security systems and adopt measures intended to regulate the consumption of pharmaceutical products in the interests of balancing the budgets of their health insurance schemes and to limit costs.

Even if such measures did not have a direct effect on imports of medicines, they might still have an effect on the marketing of such products and could indirectly influence the possibility of importation.

A feature of trade in pharmaceutical products was that social security institutions were substituted for the consumer in bearing the burden of medical expenses. Hence legislation of the type in question could not be considered *per se* a restriction on the freedom of importation guaranteed by article 30 as long as certain conditions were fulfilled.

Compatibility with the Treaty of legislation of this kind implied that there was no discrimination against imported medicines in the choice of the medicines to be excluded. Lists of excluded medicines had to be drawn up on objective criteria which did not depend on the origin of the products and could be checked by every importer.

If those conditions were fulfilled, an importer could have access to the Dutch market as long as he could sell a product with equivalent therapeutic value whose price was more advantageous than that of other products available on the market.

Such legislation would leave untouched the freedom to market any product complying with this requirement, which related not to the nature of the product but exclusively to its price.

In the event that the national court were to conclude that the legislation in question did not fulfil the conditions for compliance with Community law, it should be recalled that article 36 of the Treaty covered measures which were not economic in nature and could not justify a measure whose objective was primarily budgetary in that it aimed at a reduction in the costs of running a sickness insurance scheme.

Article 34 of the Treaty did not prohibit legislation of the type in question because it applied only to measures whose specific object or effect was to restrict patterns of export and thereby to establish a difference in treatment between the domestic and export trade of a member state which gave particular advantage to national production or to the domestic market of the state in question.

The decree in question did not prevent access to the market within the meaning of Directives 65/65 and 75/319. Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty applied to undertakings and therefore were irrelevant for the purpose of assessing the compatibility with Community law of legislation of the type in question.

For those reasons the court ruled that provisions adopted under a national scheme for obligatory health care insurance, whose object was to deprive insured persons of the right to be supplied with medicines, were not prohibited by article 30 of the Treaty if they were products excluded from reimbursement for pharmaceutical reasons justified by the protection of public health on condition that it was possible to amend the list of excluded medicines whenever respect for those criteria required it.

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Interested? Then send your cv to: Sue Gardner, Dorrell Schlumberger, Marble Arch House, 66-68 Seymour Street, London, W1H 8AF. Tel. 01-262 5033. (No agencies).

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An excellent opportunity for someone who can combine good secretarial skills (a-audio) with the ability to assist in the development of a business research function within the HQ of this major blue - chip orgn, based in Mayfair.

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£6,000 neg.
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Contact Sarah Barker
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required to deal with language courses and educational changes.
Good knowledge of German essential as well as first class secretarial skills.
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Good communication skills and telephone manner are essential in order to deal with a wide range of visitors and clients in the office. Familiarity with foreign languages would be helpful, but self-motivation and an ability to work on your own initiative are essential.

The successful applicant will probably not be less than 25 years of age, have good secretarial skills, including shorthand, and will have a presentable appearance.

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Telephone Sam Kershaw 01-498 1577

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Required for Director of Chelston interior decorating business. Must be experienced in all aspects of the work, secretarial skills also required. Driver preferred. Please write enclosing details of previous experience to The Fabric Shop, 6 Cole Street, SW2.

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Prestigious office in the City specializing in luxury garments. Applicants must be self-motivated, organized, efficient and well spoken with impeccable references.

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Public Appointments

DIRECTOR — FREEPORT FACILITIES

at
BELFAST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Now that Belfast International Airport has received Freeport designation, an invitation is extended to those who are suitably qualified and are interested in applying for the above post, to make application to this Company.

The successful applicant for this post will have demonstrated by past performance the ability:

- To establish and manage a profitable organisation in the international market place.
- To search for and find profitable business.
- To have an understanding of property development and management.
- To understand and work with Government departments.

An understanding and appreciation of international trade particularly with regard to Air Transport, more especially in Hong Kong and the Far East, would be a useful but not essential asset.

It is envisaged that the Director — Freeport Facilities will be part of the Northern Ireland Airport's executive management team and will report directly to the Chief Executive. The attractive salary will reflect the importance and responsibility of the position. Fringe benefits include a contributory pension scheme, free life assurance and the use of a Company car.

Applications should be submitted in writing to:

G. Willis
Chief Executive
Northern Ireland Airports Ltd.
Belfast BT29 4AB
Northern Ireland

In sufficient time to be received by Monday, 20th February, 1984 and should include a full C.V., together with such additional information as the applicant feels is necessary to demonstrate why he or she is particularly suitable for the appointment.

All applications will be acknowledged. Interviews will be arranged for those considered to be most suitable during the last week in February.



Cancer Research Campaign CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN A MEDICAL RESEARCH CHARITY

The Cancer Research Campaign invites applications for the post of Secretary General, who is its chief executive. The Campaign is one of the largest national charities and is entirely dependent on voluntary support. It funds cancer research in universities, institutes and hospitals in the UK and currently this amounts to £20 million annually. Senior managerial and administrative experience are of paramount importance and scientific awareness is essential. The preferred age group is 48-55. The salary equates to an Under Secretary in the Civil Service and there is a non-contributory pension scheme.

For further information apply, marked 'Personal', to the Deputy Chairman, Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR, to whom applications for the appointment should subsequently be made.

La crème

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Croydon £7,500
An independent sixth-form college in Croydon is seeking a graduate or similarly educated Secretary/PA to handle the academic reports and correspondence of the Principal's office. Knowledge and experience of further and higher education as well as word-processing skills desirable. For further details and application form, contact: The Principal, Cambridge Tutors Educational Trust, Water Tower Hill, Croydon, Tel: 01-886 6284.

Architects Practice Manager with Secretarial experience

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130 Oxford Street
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WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Social Services Department

Applications are invited for the new position of

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

(Finance and Administration)
at the Cotswold Community

Salary by negotiation within range £12,408-£15,357 p.a.

This is a therapeutic community providing treatment and education for 55-60 severely disturbed boys in the age range 10-18, located near Cirencester. It is currently being transferred from Wiltshire County Council to a new Cotswold Community Trust which will be affiliated to the Paper Harrow Foundation and therefore taking on additional financial and administrative responsibilities. The Assistant Director (Finance and Administration) will operate as a member of a new 3-person directorate. The post is residential.

Candidates should be capable of establishing and operating systems of financial management, budgeting, cost control and accounting. Experience in a residential establishment (e.g. a college or hospital) would be helpful. Application form and job description available from the Principal, The Cotswold Community, Ashton Keynes, Swindon SN6 6QU. For an informal discussion telephone Cirencester 881239. Applications should be returned to the Principal by 1st March.

DEVON HEALTH AUTHORITIES Divisional Supplies Manager

£13,000 - £16,500

Health Services are changing fast in Devon and we are looking for an able manager to do the same for our supplies organisation — the bit that provides the materials and services for doctors and nurses to treat and cure patients. Based in Exeter the service includes Torbay and Plymouth.

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Apply to Alan Ruddock, Deputy District

Administrator,
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Authority,
Dean Clarke House,
Southernhay East,
Exeter, Telephone
Exeter 52211.

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£17,808-£19,077

Applications are invited for this appointment which will become vacant due to the current postholder's forthcoming retirement. Head of the Council's paid service and leader of the Management Team, the Officer appointed will be responsible for providing financial, administrative and legal services, and be responsible to the Council for the management and direction of these services.

Applicants should have appropriate professional qualification, extensive experience in management, and co-ordination of different professional disciplines at senior level in either the public or private sector.

Application forms and job specification from the Chief Executive, Castle View, Oswestry, SY11 1JR (Tel: 0691 654411). Closing date 27 Feb. 1984.

Canvassing will disqualify.

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A qualified Accountant — probably age 30-45 — is sought, with immediate effect, to control the company's financial and management accounting functions, utilising computerised accounting systems. Benefits include an excellent salary, pension scheme, life assurance and company car.

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Quote Ref T16284.

General

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The successful candidate will, to satisfy the following conditions, be:

Preferably ex-Service; no more than 55 years of age; a chartered or certified accountant; innovative, with good working knowledge of electronic data processing. The responsibilities of the Chief Accountant include: Co-ordination and control of Headquarters accounting systems; supervision and training of departmental staff; liaison with investment portfolio managers; short term investment and trust fund management; administration of Staff Pension Fund; maintenance of central staff records and payroll; Secretaryship of Finance Committee. Job description available on application to General Secretary. Salary circa £17,500. Car. Contributory Pension Fund scheme after one year's service. Lunchtime vouchers. Applications, to include names and addresses of two referees, to: General Secretary, The Royal British Legion, 48 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 7JY marking envelope "Chief Accountant", to arrive not later than 19th March, 1984.

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Please write, including a C.V. to: Peter Blumer, International Marketing Manager, N.B.S., 105 Oyster Lane, Blythe, Surrey KT14 7HJ

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هكذا من الأصل

General Appointments

The Times guide to career development

Jobs are shifting to suburbia

Some things in life are so taken for granted that they become the subject of popular jokes and thus enter ever more deeply into our consciousness. Mothers-in-law, large ladies, foremen and shop stewards, and commuting in the rush hour all have characteristics which appear to withstand both the test of time and our own observation. In a very real sense, it is unthinkable that these things will change, let alone disappear; they are part of our heritage - yet at least the last three of those mentioned will do precisely that.

Commuting to work in the towns and cities is a twentieth-century phenomenon even though the cities are considerably older. The industrial revolution in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries drew people off the land into the new industries of the new Britain, but these people lived within walking, hearing and smelling distance of work. Most workers could not afford to travel by any form of public transport until the horse-drawn tram arrived in the late nineteenth century, although the railways released mainly managerial and professional people from the city centre. Towns and cities grew organically, in that the industries and the living accommodation went together with the shops, transport and other distributive trades and the infrastructure that grew up alongside the industry and commerce.

City jobs are at risk

Today's patterns are very different, but then so are our living and working patterns. Cities and towns are becoming depopulated, and the talk of urban blight or inner city deterioration, cities are no longer the places to bring up children or to live out one's lives. They are to be worked in, and then escaped from, into either the sculptured village or the quasi-countryside suburb at the end of each working day. How long can this state of affairs continue? It is not an idle question.

There are two mutually reinforcing reasons why this urban decline cannot continue indefinitely. Any large urban area reaches a point when the population declines to such an extent that the city is no longer self-supporting. We can see this at work in the inner city areas of London, Liverpool and Manchester as the schools, transport, roads, and other amenities all decay, with fewer people paying the rates and fewer people demanding the services and thus increasing the unit costs. The second reason is perhaps more fundamental. Towns and cities, at least the larger ones, are no longer the places to work. Microelectronics, the technology underpinning the second industrial revolution, puts many city jobs at risk as well as opening up vistas of a radical change in the ways and the places in which we shall work.

Barne Sherman foresees a rapidly approaching era when people's workplaces will be on their doorsteps

The fewer people using the town or city as a workplace, the less viable it becomes. It is a sobering thought that the age of the suburbs may be approaching as the twentieth century casts our modern cities into the dustbin of history, as did the nineteenth to many of our important market towns. Indeed the history is all that many of them have left, yet some, especially those in the Home Counties, are making a comeback.

Many large towns, especially London, have a very high percentage of clerical, administrative and other service workers; indeed London, with almost 3.5 million workers, has more than 2.6 million of these in the service industries, and this does not include the clerical staffs in the manufacturing and production industries. Many of the jobs will be at risk as a combination of cabling, ever-cheaper computing, word-processing and the all-electronic telecommunication system conspire to provide electronic information and communication systems; in short it is what IT82 was all about. Approximately one million jobs are at risk, those of one-third of all communication workers. Of those people who commute into central London, clerical, managerial and office workers of all descriptions make up the vast majority; manual workers still have a greater tendency to live near to their place of work.

More than one million people enter the centre every day. This, however, is only the tip of an iceberg, as many people travel within London without coming to the centre. In fact about 25 million journeys a day originate in the London area, and more than a million of these are by public transport. If a million or so jobs disappear from the central area, it is highly unlikely that the public transport system will be able to survive without massive subsidies, and in turn this may make the centre a less attractive place to work. Working from home then becomes a more viable proposition.

The newer technologies make home working a far more feasible and manageable operation for a wide cross-section of the working population. Managers such as those who used to work for Rank Xerox and computer programmers such as those who work for F International will be joined by the typists and administrators (those in the finance industry in New York now work from home). All these people will be working in the suburbs and will be shadowed by the workers in the new manufacturing industries based in the older, sleepy and attractive market towns. Computer and computer-based companies

are clean and respectable enterprises welcome in these parts, and the highly qualified staff prefer them to the older towns.

Quite clearly, this trend puts a strain on the resources of the towns. Fewer workers require less transport, and thus worse conditions arise for those shopping, using entertainment facilities, even before the loss of the workers' custom. As facilities decline, so does the tourist trade, and the entire cycle is reinforced. People who can afford to move away do so whilst the middle classes take advantage of the buyers' market. Depopulation proceeds apace, with single or smaller families replacing multiple occupations. The population becomes polarized between the professionals and the unskilled or unemployed. Once a city falls below its critical daytime population it has to amend itself radically.

Suburbs and the smaller towns show a quite opposite trend to this. Where once people merely slept, children went to school and housewives shopped (most now work) the suburbs will be forced to become fully fledged communities. More people will be working there, from home, from office, shops, or from small satellite branches of large companies. Men and women will both be involved in this move. The unemployed add an extra dimension to this shift, with the result that the daytime population of suburbia will be far greater than at present and a far more representative cross-section of the population. This new suburbia will start to demand facilities that were previously only found in the large towns.

Daytime suburbs

There will be cafes and restaurants, office supplies, cleaning companies, bars and pubs, fast repair and other service shops, places of entertainment and a full range of shops from sandwich purveyors to florists. Transport will have to be improved and traffic congestion will move from the centre to the periphery. Community groups will spring up, the foundation of traditions be laid; suburban stress will be treated by local groups. The growth in jobs in the suburbs will be large and will encompass a large number of skills and disciplines, although most will be in the category required for small firms or those prepared to gamble in a small entrepreneurial way.

The first industrial revolution changed the map of Britain dramatically, the second will be less dramatic but will have equally far-reaching social effects. The large empty office blocks in the city centres will stand in the year 2000 as a monument to last year's technology whilst suburban life will have a busier and vitality unbelievable today. They are the new market towns.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

8.00 **Cee-fax** AM. News and information service, available on every TV set.

8.30 **Breakfast**. With Frank Bough and Elaine Scott. Today's Thursday special includes the medical item and the food and cookery spot (both of them the same time between 8.30 and 8.50). Regular items include news at 8.30 and half-hourly until 8.50, then half-hourly until 9.00 (8.35, 7.35). Mad Lizzie (8.50 and 9.15) and John Stapleton's Spotlight (7.20). Today's special guest: 7.40.

9.00 **Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle**. Cartoon: 9.20 **The Genuine Article**. How to tell fake "antique" furniture from the real thing: 9.45 **Cee-fax**. Today's Thursday special: **Don Spencer**: 10.55 **Olympic Grandstand**. The Men's 400m, 12.30 **News After Noon**: 12.57 **Financial Report**. And sub-titled news.

1.00 **Olympic Grandstand**: David Coleman introduces the Men's and Women's Downhill, Ice Hockey; and there is news of the Men's 1,500m Speed-Skating and the 4x100m Relay. 1.45 **King Rollie**: 1.50 **Eric-a-Brac**.

2.00 **The Afternoon Show**: Today's topics are an obsessive gambler (with studio discussion) and those people, mainly women, who devote their lives to caring for elderly relatives. And Christine Keeler is interviewed. 2.40 **Dynasty**: Lynsey (Katy Kurzman) makes a distressing discovery (r): 3.25 **Arthur Negus Enjoys**: A 19th century breakfast in the state dining-room at Goodwood.

2.50 **Magpie Roundabout**: Eric Thompson tells story (r): 3.55 **Play School**: It's Thursday: 4.20 **Tin Tin**: Cartoon: 4.25 **Janet**: Bernard Hobbs reads from Joan Edington's *Jonny Briggs* and the *Julius* Concert: 4.35 **Font and the Happy Days Gang** (r): 5.00 **John Craven's Newsround**: 5.10 **Blue Peter**: 5.35 **The Wombles**.

5.40 **5.45** **5.50** **6.00** **6.05** **6.10** **6.15** **6.20** **6.25** **6.30** **6.35** **6.40** **6.45** **6.50** **6.55** **7.00** **7.05** **7.10** **7.15** **7.20** **7.25** **7.30** **7.35** **7.40** **7.45** **7.50** **7.55** **8.00** **8.05** **8.10** **8.15** **8.20** **8.25** **8.30** **8.35** **8.40** **8.45** **8.50** **8.55** **9.00** **9.05** **9.10** **9.15** **9.20** **9.25** **9.30** **9.35** **9.40** **9.45** **9.50** **9.55** **10.00** **10.05** **10.10** **10.15** **10.20** **10.25** **10.30** **10.35** **10.40** **10.45** **10.50** **10.55** **11.00** **11.05** **11.10** **11.15** **11.20** **11.25** **11.30** **11.35** **11.40** **11.45** **11.50** **11.55** **12.00** **12.05** **12.10** **12.15** **12.20** **12.25** **12.30** **12.35** **12.40** **12.45** **12.50** **12.55** **13.00** **13.05** **13.10** **13.15** **13.20** **13.25** **13.30** **13.35** **13.40** **13.45** **13.50** **13.55** **14.00** **14.05** **14.10** **14.15** **14.20** **14.25** **14.30** **14.35** **14.40** **14.45** **14.50** **14.55** **15.00** **15.05** **15.10** **15.15** **15.20** **15.25** **15.30** **15.35** **15.40** **15.45** **15.50** **15.55** **16.00** **16.05** **16.10** **16.15** **16.20** **16.25** **16.30** **16.35** **16.40** **16.45** **16.50** **16.55** **17.00** **17.05** **17.10** **17.15** **17.20** **17.25** **17.30** **17.35** **17.40** **17.45** **17.50** **17.55** **18.00** **18.05** **18.10** **18.15** **18.20** **18.25** **18.30** **18.35** **18.40** **18.45** **18.50** **18.55** **19.00** **19.05** **19.10** **19.15** **19.20** **19.25** **19.30** **19.35** **19.40** **19.45** **19.50** **19.55** **20.00** **20.05** **20.10** **20.15** **20.20** **20.25** **20.30** **20.35** **20.40** **20.45** **20.50** **20.55** **21.00** **21.05** **21.10** **21.15** **21.20** **21.25** **21.30** **21.35** **21.40** **21.45** **21.50** **21.55** **22.00** **22.05** **22.10** **22.15** **22.20** **22.25** **22.30** **22.35** **22.40** **22.45** **22.50** **22.55** **23.00** **23.05** **23.10** **23.15** **23.20** **23.25** **23.30** **23.35** **23.40** **23.45** **23.50** **23.55** **24.00** **24.05** **24.10** **24.15** **24.20** **24.25** **24.30** **24.35** **24.40** **24.45** **24.50** **24.55** **25.00** **25.05** **25.10** **25.15** **25.20** **25.25** **25.30** **25.35** **25.40** **25.45** **25.50** **25.55** **26.00** **26.05** **26.10** **26.15** **26.20** **26.25** **26.30** **26.35** **26.40** **26.45** **26.50** **26.55** **27.00** **27.05** **27.10** **27.15** **27.20** **27.25** **27.30** **27.35** **27.40** **27.45** **27.50** **27.55** **28.00** **28.05** **28.10** **28.15** **28.20** **28.25** **28.30** **28.35** **28.40** **28.45** **28.50** **28.55** **29.00** **29.05** **29.10** **29.15** **29.20** **29.25** **29.30** **29.35** **29.40** **29.45** **29.50** **29.55** **30.00** **30.05** **30.10** **30.15** **30.20** **30.25** **30.30** **30.35** **30.40** **30.45** **30.50** **30.55** **31.00** **31.05** **31.10** **31.15** **31.20** **31.25** **31.30** **31.35** **31.40** **31.45** **31.50** **31.55** **32.00** **32.05** **32.10** **32.15** **32.20** **32.25** **32.30** **32.35** **32.40** **32.45** **32.50** **32.55** **33.00** **33.05** **33.10** **33.15** **33.20** **33.25** **33.30** **33.35** **33.40** **33.45** **33.50** **33.55** **34.00** **34.05** **34.10** **34.15** **34.20** **34.25** **34.30** **34.35** **34.40** **34.45** **34.50** **34.55** **35.00** **35.05** **35.10** **35.15** **35.20** **35.25** **35.30** **35.35** **35.40** **35.45** **35.50** **35.55** **36.00** **36.05** **36.10** **36.15** **36.20** **36.25** **36.30** **36.35** **36.40** **36.45** **36.50** **36.55** **37.00** **37.05** **37.10** **37.15** **37.20** **37.25** **37.30** **37.35** **37.40** **37.45** **37.50** **37.55** **38.00** **38.05** **38.10** **38.15** **38.20** **38.25** **38.30** **38.35** **38.40** **38.45** **38.50** **38.55** **39.00** **39.05** **39.10** **39.15** **39.20** **39.25** **39.30** **39.35** **39.40** **39.45** **39.50** **39.55** **40.00** **40.05** **40.10** **40.15** **40.20** **40.25** **40.30** **40.35** **40.40** **40.45** **40.50** **40.55** **41.00** **41.05** **41.10** **41.15** **41.20** **41.25** **41.30** **41.35** **41.40** **41.45** **41.50** **41.55** **42.00** **42.05** **42.10** **42.15** **42.20** **42.25** **42.30** **42.35** **42.40** **42.45** **42.50** **42.55** **43.00** **43.05** **43.10** **43.15** **43.20** **43.25** **43.30** **43.35** **43.40** **43.45** **43.50** **43.55** **44.00** **44.05** **44.10** **44.15** **44.20** **44.25** **44.30** **44.35** **44.40** **44.45** **44.50** **44.55** **45.00** **45.05** **45.10** **45.15** **45.20** **45.25** **45.30** **45.35** **45.40** **45.45** **45.50** **45.55** **46.00** **46.05** **46.10** **46.15** **46.20** **46.25** **46.30** **46.35** **46.40** **46.45** **46.50** **46.55** **47.00** **47.05** **47.10** **47.15** **47.20** **47.25** **47.30** **47.35** **47.40** **47.45** **47.50** **47.55** **48.00** **48.05** **48.10** **48.15** **48.20** **48.25** **48.30** **48.35** **48.40** **48.45** **48.50** **48.55** **49.00** **49.05** **49.10** **49.15** **49.20** **49.25** **49.30** **49.35** **49.40** **49.45** **49.50** **49.55** **50.00** **50.05** **50.10** **50.15** **50.20** **50.25** **50.30** **50.35** **50.40** **50.45** **50.50** **50.55** **51.00** **51.05** **51.10** **51.15** **51.20** **51.25** **51.30** **51.35** **51.40** **51.45** **51.50** **51.55** **52.00** **52.05** **52.10** **52.15** **52.20** **52.25** **52.30** **52.35** **52.40** **52.45** **52.50** **52.55** **53.00** **53.05** **53.10** **53.15** **53.20** **53.25** **53.30** **53.35** **53.40** **53.45** **53.50** **53.55** **54.00** **54.05** **54.10** **54.15** **54.20** **54.25** **54.30** **54.35** **54.40** **54.45** **54.50** **54.55** **55.00** **55.05** **55.10** **55.15** **55.20** **55.25** **55.30** **55.35** **55.40** **55.45** **55.50** **55.55** **56.00** **56.05** **56.10** **56.15** **56.20** **56.25** **56.30** **56.35** **56.40** **56.45** **56.50** **56.55** **57.00** **57.05** **57.10** **57.15** **57.20** **57.25** **57.30** **57.35** **57.40** **57.45** **57.50** **57.55** **58.00** **58.05** **58.10** **58.15** **58.20** **58.25** **58.30** **58.35** **58.40** **58.45** **58.50** **58.55** **59.00** **59.05** **59.10** **59.15** **59.20** **59.25** **59.30** **59.35** **59.40** **59.45** **59.50** **59.55** **60.00** **60.05** **60.10** **60.15** **60.20** **60.25** **60.30** **60.35** **60.40** **60.45** **60.50** **60.55** **61.00** **61.05** **61.10** **61.15** **61.20** **61.25** **61.30** **61.35** **61.40** **61.45** **61.50** **61.55** **62.00** **62.05** **62.10** **62.15** **62.20** **62.25** **62.30** **62.35** **62.40** **62.45** **62.50** **62.55** **63.00** **63.05** **63.10** **63.15** **63.20** **63.25** **63.30** **63.35** **63.40** **63.45** **63.50** **63.55** **64.00** **64.05** **64.10** **64.15** **64.20** **64.25** **64.30** **64.35** **64.40** **64.45** **64.50** **64.55** **65.00** **65.05** **65.10** **65.15** **65.20** **65.25** **65.30** **65.35** **65.40** **65.45** **65.50** **65.55** **66.00** **66.05** **66.10** **66.15** **66.20** **66.25** **66.30** **66.35** **66.40** **66.45** **66.50** **66.55** **67.00** **67.05** **67.10** **67.15** **67.20** **67.25** **67.30** **67.35** **67.40** **67.45** **67.50** **67.55** **68.00** **68.05** **68.10** **68.15** **68.20** **68.25** **68.30** **68.35** **68.40** **68.45** **68.50** **68.55** **69.00** **69.05** **69.10** **69.15** **69.20** **69.25** **69.30** **69.35** **69.40** **69.45** **69.50** **69.55** **70.00** **70.05** **70.10** **70.15** **70.20** **70.25** **70.30** **70.35** **70.40** **70.45** **70.50** **70.55** **71.00** **71.05** **71.10** **71.15** **71.20** **71.25** **71.30** **71.35** **71.40** **71.45** **71.50** **71.55** **72.00** **72.05** **72.10** **72.15** **72.20** **72.25** **72.30** **72.35** **72.40** **72.45** **72.50** **72.55** **73.00** **73.05** **73.10** **73.15** **73.20** **73.25** **73.30** **73.35** **73.40** **73.45** **73.50** **73.55** **74.00** **74.05** **74.10** **74.15** **74.20** **74.25** **74.30** **74.35** **74.40** **74.45** **74.50** **74.55** **75.00** **75.05** **75.10** **75.15** **75.20** **75.25** **75.30** **75.35** **75.40** **75.45** **75.50** **75.55** **76.00** **76.05** **76.10** **76.15** **76.20** **76.25** **76.30** **76.35** **76.40** **76.45** **76.50** **76.55** **77.00** **77.05** **77.10** **77.15** **77.20** **77.25** **77.30** **77.35** **77.40** **77.45** **77.50** **77.55** **78.00** **78.05** **78.10** **78.15** **78.20** **78.25** **78.30** **78.35** **78.40** **78.45** **78.50** **78.55** **79.00** **79.05** **79.10** **79.15** **79.20** **79.25** **79.30** **79.35** **79.40** **79.45** **79.50** **79.55** **80.00** **80.05** **80.10** **80.15** **80.20** **80.25** **80.30** **80.35** **80.40** **80.45** **80.50** **80.55** **81.00** **81.05** **81.10** **81.15** **81.20** **81.25** **81.30** **81.35** **81.40** **81.45** **81.50** **81.55** **82.00** **82.05** **82.10** **82.15** **82.20** **82.25** **82.30** **82.35** **82.40** **82.45** **82.50** **82.55** **83.00** **83.05** **83.10** **83.15** **83.20** **83.25** **83.30** **83.35** **83.40** **83.45** **83.50** **83.55** **84.00** **84.05** **84.10** **84.15** **84.20** **84.25** **84.30** **84.35** **84.40** **84.45** **84.50** **84.55** **85.00** **85.05** **85.10** **85.15** **85.20** **85.25** **85.30** **85.35** **85.40** **85.45** **85.50** **85.55** **86.00** **86.05** **86.10** **86.15** **86.20** **86.25** **86.30** **86.35** **86.40** **86.45** **86.50** **86.55** **87.00** **87.05** **87.10** **87.15** **87.20** **87.25** **87.30** **87.35** **87.40** **87.45** **87.50** **87.55** **88.00** **88.05** **88.10** **88.15** **88.20** **88.25** **88.30** **88.35** **88.40** **88.45** **88.50** **88.55** **89.00** **89.05** **89.10** **89.15** **89.20** **89.25** **89.30** **89.35** **89.40** **89.45** **89.50** **89.55** **90.00** **90.05** **90.10** **90.15** **90.20** **90.25** **90.30** **90.35** **90.40** **90.45** **90.50** **90.55** **91.00** **91.05** **91.10** **91.15** **91.20** **91.25** **91.30** **91.35** **91.40** **91.45** <

